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A WARREN MAGAZINE

FAMOUS MONSTERS®

#184 JUNE 1982 $2.00 WPS 37928

THE ANIMAL WITHIN US LIVES... CAT PEOPLE!

SEE PAGE 18

DRAGONSLAYER™

WARRIORS... SORCERERS... MAIDENS AND A SOARING INFERNO!

HERCULES! SAMSON! GOLIATH! ATLAS!

CONAN! FAMOUS BARBARIANS OF FILMLAND!

SEE PAGE 24

0 70989 37928 06

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

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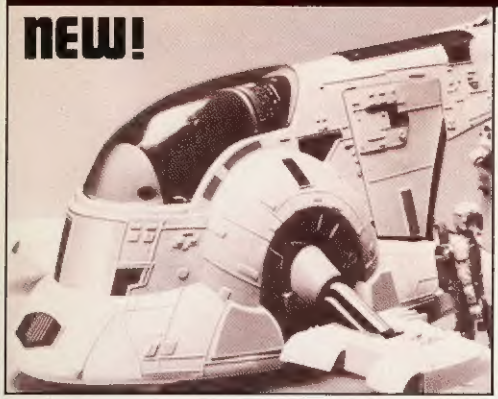
INCREDIBLE MODELS & SETS FROM THE MOST EXCITING MOVIE EVER!

SLAVE 1: BOBA FETT'S SPACESHIP



SLAVE I: An exciting replica of the evil Boba Fett's ship! Highly detailed ship has movable ramp into the cargo hold, adjustable seat for landing and flight positions, adjustable wings that lock for cruise control! The clicking, moving laser cannons will protect Slave I from any pursuit ships. The craft will hold at least three action figures beside Boba when the side panel is removed! A frozen Han Solo figurine is included! This is a functional toy that requires no batteries! Action figure not included. #26299—$24.95

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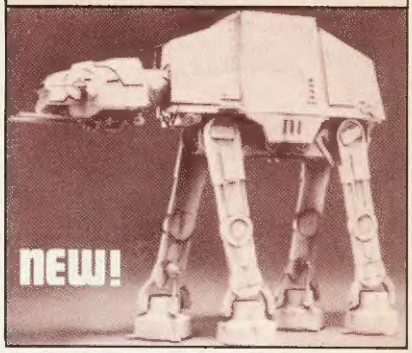

ALL-TERRAIN ARMORED-TRANSPORT: Highly detailed 8" tall replica of the deadly walkers! The legs and head control room are moveable! #24256—$7.25

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

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IMPERIAL ATTACK ON REBEL BASE ACTION SET

BATTLE ON ICE PLANET HOTH: Darth Vader's Imperial troops attack the rebel stronghold in this 12"x18" action scene! Included are terrain base, three snap together attack walkers, an x-wing fighter, a scout walker, three snow speeders and almost fifty figures! #24257—$9.95

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.

SPEAKING OF MONSTERS

THE BRIDE WORE FRIGHT

MOST BRIDES wear white but the one pictured above wore FRIGHT because she got an advance peek at the contents of this issue and found herself featured in our Preview of REST IN PEACE. And that's not all she found! as You'll Find Out: The Return of "Things with Wings"...the first half of an article on "B" Pix that will have you a-buzz...and Neat Treats & Rare Treats that we'll leave you to discover for yourself. Especially interesting this time is the NEWS DEPT. with info about no less than FIVE 4-thcoming 3-D fanta-films!

Forrest J Ackerman

THIS ISSUE DEDICATED TO

ARNELLE FULLER

Pen in hand, Mrs. Fuller leapt to your Editor's defense several issues ago when one of my severe critics expressed his disappointment that my burial was, as Mr. Poe would have said, premature. Your response was appreciated, Arnelle.

MUCHO ON HIS MIND

What can I say that I haven't already said before? Another letter from **me** in yet another issue of **FM** number 179 to be precise. It gives me a rush every time I see a letter of mine in print: it's a much better high than alcohol or drugs. And it's so much cheaper too.

Now on to important matters. First, let me add my cheers and support to a fellow South Carolinian, Ted Masters, whose letter was so skilfully placed next to mine (it **has** to be more than coincidence). I wish you the best of health & happiness, not only for myself but for all **FM** readers in the Palmetto State. In case you would like to correspond with me (this invite also open to every other **FM** fan), I can be contacted at this address:

Mitchell B. Craig
102 E. Confederate Ave.
Lancaster, SC 29720

My interests range from hardcore SF to Godzilla movies; that covers a lot of territory. In fact, the scope of my interests would circle the Death Star **at least 50 times over**. I want to hear from you!

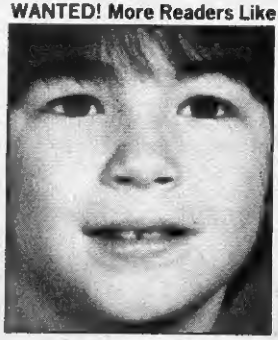
It also pleases me to see a letter from one of my current penpals, Jay Bullbear. I agree with him **fully** about MOTEL HELL, which is one of the best comedy/horror films since Roger Corman's THE RAVEN (I should've mentioned Corman's name when I praised THE HOWLING in my last missive; some people might have thought I was referring to the 1935 Karloff/Lugosi film of the same name). I also agree that extremely negative letters have no place in **FM**. However, this doesn't mean you should flood the **Fang Mail** pages with mindless raves about every idiotic piece of cinematic drool Hollyweird ladles out. Constructive critiquing helps. By the way, I've come around to Jay's opinion on Disney's THE BLACK HOLE. Cute robots, nice SFX, but otherwise . . . forget it. Another disappointment from Disney was **Condorman**, a very weak spy spoof that didn't do anything that was done better on **Get Smart!** years ago.

That brings me to 2 more disappointing films: CLASH OF THE TITANS & AN AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN LONDON. As a Ray Harryhausen fan from way back, who can remember the fabulous Skeleton Battle in JASON & THE ARGONAUTS, the Rhedosaurus in THE BEAST FROM 20,000 FATHOMS, the Ymir in 20 MILLION MILES TO EARTH and the Cyclops of THE 7TH VOYAGE OF SINBAD, nothing in CLASH even came **close** to rivaling those great moments in fantasy. All the models seemed to remain models from beginning to end; when even a hardcore fantasy buff can't muster enough suspension of disbelief, it's a sure sign that the film has failed to make us believe in winged horses & mechanical owls. AMERICAN WEREWOLF, while fun to watch, is ultimately a big disappointment. The horror & comedy don't mesh as well as they did in THE HOWLING & MOTEL HELL, and the much talked about transformation sequence, while technically competent, is less dramatic than a similar sequence in THE HOWLING. It's quite ironic that Rick Baker taught HOWLING's make up FX artist, Rob Bottin, some of the techniques that were also used in AMERICAN WEREWOLF.

How about an article on John Carpenter, who is one of my favorite directors? Basically, do it in a similar fashion to the article you had on David Cronenberg, another faverave of mine. I've had the good fortune to see SCANNERS, THE BROOD & RABID in the past year; he's a true artist. Cronenberg has a way with terror that is both exhilarating & disturbing. Many would-be horrormeisters would do well to learn from him.

MITCHELL B. CRAIG
Lancaster, SC

WANTED! More Readers Like



ROBERT RIVAS

GHOULA TALLULAH

Writing a tribute to Richard Matheson in issue #179, Randy Palmer mentioned Matheson's 1965 DIE, DIE MY DARLING, the only supernatural film of Tallulah Bankhead. The movie deserves much more than a mere passing notice. Bankhead was appropriately eerie as the mad Mrs. Trefoil, who torments Stephanie Powers in her ancient house. Peter Vaughn had a truly scary scene wherein he pursued Stephanie with his face still coated with shaving lather. A more berserk appearance has never been so effected on screen. Sadly, veteran Tallulah was to die in 1968, cutting off her new found horror film career. Thanx for another superb year. Randy Palmer also, for your outstanding Richard Matheson article in **FM** #179.

SP/5 JOE HAMMELL
Izmir, Turkey

ANIMATED PLUMBER?

I am writing you concerning an article I saw in STARS & STRIPES. It was titled "Animator's Happy Endings Fight N-cynicism" (nuclear, that is.) Mr. Harryhausen (he's great!) was in Tokyo to publicize CLASH OF THE TITANS. He said any film he works on will not have a sad ending and that people don't pay to be depressed, they can get depressed very easily on their own! He said it all began in 1933 when he saw KING KONG, which inspired him to his life work, animating. Harryhausen deplored the 1976 version of KING KONG and said if he had seen this in 1933, he probably would've become a plumber! Aren't we glad he didn't?

ROBERT HEROLD
San Francisco, CA

WANTED! More Readers Like

JO FLETCHER (ENGLAND)

20 TO LIFE

I've been buying **FM** since #107. Here's a list of things I'd like to see in **FM**:

1. Biographies of such people (?) as: Claude Rains, Basil Rathbone, John Carradine, Fay Wray, Evelyn Ankers, Carol Lynley, Paul Wegener, Conrad Veidt.
2. Something about the directors & producers of horror movies such as Tod Browning, James Whale, Carl Laemmle, etc.
3. An article about all the Invisible Man (& Woman) movies. Including those from other countries.
4. A list of the non-horror films of Bela Lugosi, Christopher Lee & all the major horror stars.
5. An update on Lee, Cushing, Price & Carridine.

My father says horror movies are kid stuff & that I should grow out of them. No way. I'll always love Horror, Sci-fi & Fantasy. I'm 20 years old.

JOHN MENDOZA JR.
(Address Missing)

FANG MAIL CONTINUED ON PAGE 65

OUR COVER: NATASSIA KINSKI OF "THE CAT PEOPLE" EYES YOU..."DRAGONSLAYER" FLIES FOR YOU ...AND CONAN THE BARBARIAN FLEXES HIS HYBOREAN MUSCLES FOR YOU ON OUR TRIPLE THREAT COVER THAT COVERS A FEW OF THE EXCITING IMAGI-MOVIES AWAITING YOU WITHIN OUR PAGES.

FAMOUS MONSTERS®

Incorporating MONSTER WORLD

ISSUE No.184
JUNE 1982

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6 WATCH OUT FOR 3-D! Soon to be jumping off the scream at a theater near you...The Creature! The Parasite! The Mirrorman! And more!

12 DRAGONSLAYER Winging your way by the time you read these words...a re-release of 1981's stop-motion and special effects standout!

18 CAT PEOPLE A cat has nine lives...and the 1942 classic has just been given its second! Though the scripter tells us he started from scratch!

24 B.C. = BEFORE CONAN A pectoral pictorial on strongmen of the cinema! Hercules! Samson! Goliath! Don Knotts! (Don Knotts?)

31 GODZILLA What happened to the flamin', maimin' monster that we all knew and loathed? He's still around...but now he's a 500-foot pussycat!

37 OBITUARIES Veterans of fantastic films summoned of late to Sirki's domain include Nils Asther, Stanley Clements and Gloria Grahame.

38 60 "B" PIX Not an article on "B" movies...or killer "B's"...but on films whose titles begin with the letter "B"! U won't B-lieve your I's!

44 REST IN PEACE A diffearant type of horror film...a mellow drama without blood by the flood and gore galore! By a once and present FM fan!

46 SON OF WINGS Featuring the Sky Things left up in the air by last issue's installment! Flight fright fans are soar to find it uplifting!

REGULAR DEPARTMENTS

4 FANG MAIL Filmdom's fangnatic fans have sent this department another outpouring of sympathy, rage and/or empassioned opinion!

11 BIRTHDAY WITCHES A stellar collection of birthday luminaries grace these pages this month. Now you can send them your best too!

23 MYSTERY PHOTO If you can't guess who this horrifying monstrocity is then just try again with our fiendishly scrambled clue!

61 RARE TREATS Scared out of your pants? Ha! We've just begun to fright as we scour the Ackermonster's vault for these pix and fanta-photos!

62 THE GRAVEYARD From the murky depths, the GE has exhumed these tasty treats for your edification, amusement and plain fun!

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WATCH OUT FOR 3-D!

dread, diabolical, devouring

Robert E. Howard's Man of Muscle of the Hyborean Age, CONAN.

THE THREEDEE'S Are Coming!

THE PARASITE from Irwin Yablans.

THE MIRRORMAN from the director of THE WOLFEN.

And last but not least, that famous beast from the Fiendish 50s, THE CREATURE FROM THE BLACK LAGOON, is preparing to leap out of the screen once again.

But that's not all.

Far from it.

There are plenty of "flatties" scheduled:

SORCERESS
WAR GAMES
PELLUCIDAR
FORBIDDEN WORLD
BOOK OF THE DEAD
DAY OF THE TRIFFIDS

. . . just to name a few. A new, modernized concept of the Frankenstein monster . . . GOOD WITCH OF LAUREL CANYON . . . THE RETURN OF CAPTAIN INVINCIBLE (with Christopher Lee) . . . and, yes, as we go to press, a Flash on *another* 3-D'er, THREE-DIMENSIONAL TALES OF TERROR.

futuria fantasias

Announced for production or in the works are such imagi-movies as:

THE WAR OF THE WORLDS—NEXT CENTURY. On 18 December 1999 the Martians land on Earth. Iron Idem, a newscaster, is informed by his superiors that he is to tell his audiences they are to embrace the invaders with love. But short-

Advertised as "The first Super Hero Adventure Sequel ever made before the Original", THE RETURN OF CAPTAIN INVINCIBLE promises such never-before-seen sights as The Amazing Computer Brain, Mister Midnight's Shock Pit, The Hypnoray, The Floating Polish Condo, The Man-Eating Vacuum Cleaners and other Dangerous Visions.

ly thereafter everything becomes chaotic—the Martians mistreat people and foment violence in the streets, homes are vandalized, the commentator's wife is kidnapped. Ironically, Idem winds up being put on trial. The picture is Polish.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN, adapted from the famous comicbook character.

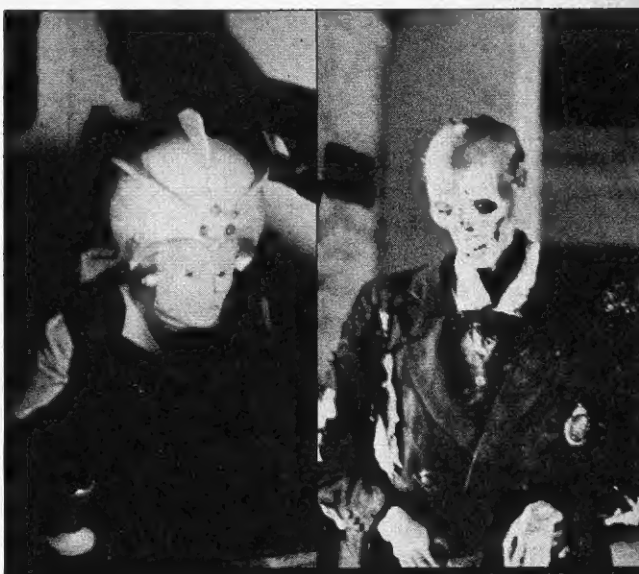
TURKEY SHOOT. Behind this innocuous title an action-packed tale of 1995.

SCARECROW—a showcase for the talents of 75-year-old John Carradine at his Grand Guignolesque best.

DOUBLE PEQUET—an Irish ghostory.

FEAR OF DARK—and English ghostory.

Further info on WAR GAMES: it's a pantographic concept. Children play computer games and as they destroy buildings & cities & people on a gameboard, similar catastrophes occur on a larger scale in real life. And the scoop on PELLUCIDAR is that it's being produced by Milton Subotsky, who's been associated with sci-fi & horror films for so many years. (One remembers ASYLUM, DR. TERROR'S HOUSE OF HORRORS, TALES FROM THE CRYPT, LAND & PEOPLE THAT TIME FORGOT, etc.) PELLUCIDAR, in case you are not acquainted with the



From Berlin comes this Exclusive Shot of the New PERRY RHODAN Film. At right, run for your lives, the corpses from their crypts are after you in REST IN PEACE.

Continuing FM's Exclusive Series of Fabulous Fotos of Bobbie Bresee (in her last stage of Demonhood) in MAUSOLEUM. Astonishing Makeup by J.C. Buechler, who is the subject of a Feature in Our Next Issue.

Guess even barbarians had their hangups. Ask CONAN.

name, is the fascinating world at the center of the Earth envisioned by the immortal imagination of Edgar Rice Burroughs.

ride the roller-ghoster!

WW3 ... TRON ... FEAR ... LITAN ... CONAN ... GOLEM ... PANIC ... VIRUS ... BATMAN ... JAWS 3 ... FIREFOX ... THE NEXT ... BARBARIAN ... E.T. & ME ... MAUSOLEUM ... THE THING ... THE STAND ... PSYCHO II ... CREEPSHOW ... HARLEQUIN ... HUMUNGOUS ... MEGAFORCE ... GREYSTOKE ... VIDEODROME ... VAMPIRELLA ... BLOOD TIDE ... WAVELENGTH ... TERROR EYES ... BLADERUNNER ... FIRESTARTER ... GHOSTKEEPER ... SUPERMAN III ... STAR TREK II ... AIRPORT 2001 ... THE SURVIVOR ... PSYCHIC MAYA ... SUPER MONSTER ... HALLOWEEN III ... THE HOWLING 2 ... ZOMBIE'S LAKE ... BIRDS OF PREY ... THE AFTERMATH ... THE TRANSPORT ... NIGHT OF HORROR ... THE BEASTMASTER ... THE 10th VICTIM ... THE WORM EATERS ... THE WORLD OF YOR ... DENMARK IS CLOSED! ... BIRTH OF THE WITCH ... ENDANGERED SPECIES ... AMITYVILLE VERTIGO ... REVENGE OF THE JEDI ... SINS OF DORIAN GRAY ... FRANKENSTEIN'S ISLAND ... FRANKENSTEIN'S CREATION ... HELL OF THE LIVING DEAD ... THE MYSTERIOUS INVADERS ... THE ADVENTURES OF TARZAN ... INVADERS OF THE LOST GOLD ... AMITYVILLE: THE POSSESSION ... VISITORS FROM ARKANA GALAXY ... SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES.

final flashes

Giant RATS (actually dachshunds outfitted in the latest rodent wear!) will be the terrifying subject of a Canadian film featuring Scatman (THE SHINING) Crothers.

After you spend A NIGHT IN THE CRYPT you may wish to hunt for THE LOST EMPIRE. Latter will be a future world epic laid in a time after the complete destruction of civilization.

FORBIDDEN WORLD is the first film credit for **FM** graduate Jim Wynorski.

And one more 3-d'er is announced: FRIDAY THE 13th—III.

IMAGI—MOVIE NOMINATIONS

The Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy & Horror Films has announced its nominations for the 1982 Awards. As follows:

ACTORS

Sean Connery, OUTLAND; **Albert Finney,** WOLFEN; **Harrison Ford,** RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK; **Donald Pleasence,** HALLOWEEN II; **Christopher Reeve,** SUPERMAN II.

ACTRESSES

Jeanny Agutter, AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN LONDON; **Karen Allen,** RAIDERS OF THE

It's Artist George Barr's concept, closely following John Campbell's description in the original novella, which the new version is said to faithfully follow.

Will THE THING look like this?

LOST ARK; **Margot Kidder**, SUPERMAN II; **Angela Lansbury**, THE MIRROR CRACK'D; **Lily Tomlin**, INCREDIBLE SHRINKING WOMAN.

SUPPORTING ACTRESSES

Viveca Lindfors, RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK; **Helen Mirren**, EXCALIBUR; **Kyle Richards**, WATCHER IN THE WOODS; **Maggie Smith**, CLASH OF THE TITANS; **Frances Sternhagen**, OUTLAND.

SUPPORTING ACTORS

Paul Freeman, RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK; **Burgess Meredith**, CLASH OF THE TITANS; **Ralph Richardson**, DRAGONSLAYER; **Craig Warnock**, TIME BANDITS; **Nicol Williamson**, EXCALIBUR.

DIRECTION

John Boorman, EXCALIBUR; **John Carpenter**, ESCAPE FROM NEW YORK; **Terry Gillam**, TIME BANDITS; **Steven Spielberg**, RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK; **Michael Wadleigh**, WOLFEN.

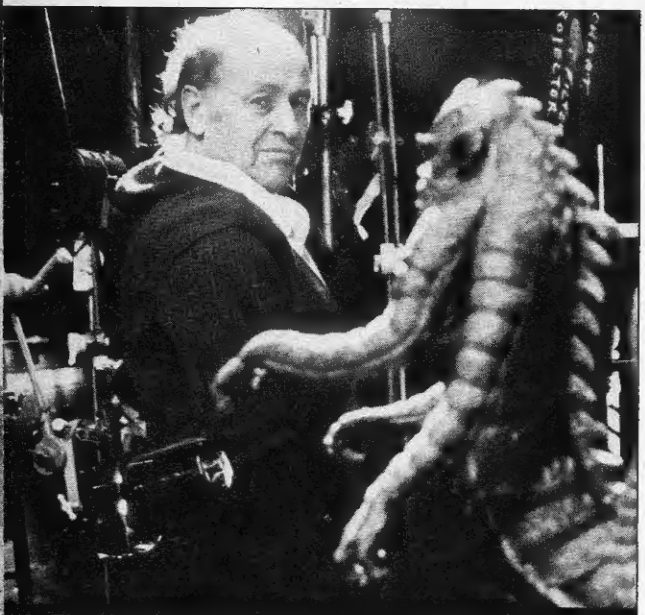
WRITING

AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN LONDON, **John Landis**; OUTLAND, **Peter Hyams**; RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK, **Lawrence Kasdan**; TIME BANDITS, **Terry Gillam, Michael Palin**; WOLFEN, **David Eyre, Michael Wadleigh**.

MUSIC

CLASH OF THE TITANS, **Lawrence Rosenthal**; HAUNTING OF JULIA, **Colin Towns**;

This one is so new we don't even have the title on it yet!



The Maestro & The Kraken. FM is delighted to report that RAY HARRYHAUSEN, seen above, has won the coveted LIFE CAREER AWARD for 1982 from the Hollywood-based Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy & Horror Motion Pictures.

OUTLAND, **Jerry Goldsmith**; RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK, **John Williams**; SUPERMAN II, **Ken Thorne**.

SPECIAL EFFECTS

CLASH OF THE TITANS, **Ray Harryhausen**; DRAGONSLAYER, **Brian Johnson, Dennis Muren**; OUTLAND, **John Stears**; RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK, **Richard Edlund**; TIME BANDITS, **John Bunker**.

MAKEUP

AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN LONDON, **Rick Baker**; DEAD AND BURIED, **Stan Winston**; ESCAPE FROM NEW YORK, **Ken Chase**; EXCALIBUR, **Basil Newall, Anna Dryhurst**; HEARTBEEPS, **Zoltan Elek, Vince Prentice**.

COSTUME

CLASH OF THE TITANS, **Emma Porteous**; DRAGONSLAYER, **Anthony Mendleson**; ESCAPE FROM NEW YORK, **Stephen Loomis**; EXCALIBUR, **Bob Ringwood**; RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK, **Deborah Nadoolman**.

Your Editor was privileged to make the announcement at the Los Angeles Press Club on TV that his nominee RAY HARRYHAUSEN has won the LIFE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD of the Sci-Fi & Fantasy Film Academy under the auspices of Dr. Donald A. Reed.

END

BIRTHDAY WITCHES

8 FAMOUS FANTASY FILM FOLK celebrate their Natal Days in May and FM can forward congratulatory cards & letters from its readers to 5 of them (no charge for the service). Address your envelope to VINCENT PRICE, JAS. ARNESS, LORD LAURENCE OLIVIER, GEO. LUCAS and/or PETER CUSHING c/o Nora L. Dayn, 2433 Glendower Ave., Hollywood, CA 90027, and your envelope will be forwarded to the respective stars. In the case of Mr. CUSHING, he lives overseas so you will have to put 40¢ postage on your envelope if it weighs ½ oz., and an additional 40¢ for any further ½ oz.

PETER CUSHING
May 26
Star Wars

CHRISTOPHER LEE
May 27
Character Star

VINCENT PRICE
May 27
Dr. Phibes

LAURENCE OLIVIER
May 22
Boys from Brazil

GEORGE LUCAS
May 14
Lost Ark

PETER MATHEW
May 19
Empire Strikes

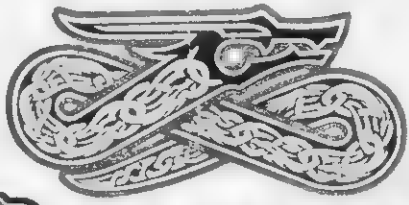
JAMES MASON
May 15
Capt. Nemo

JAMES ARNESS
May 16
Them!

IRON-ONS!

In full color: dragon logo, sorcerer's apprentice Galen (with glitter!) and monstrous Vermithrax Pejorative!

Three colorful scenes: large logo, Indiana Jones on horseback, & small logo plus Indiana holding bullwhip!



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by Tim Moriarty

In the spring of 1981, movie audiences were flocking to see RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK and SUPERMAN II...and little else. A number of deserving films were trampled in the stampede of media attention and mega-bucks. One such film was the unique and exciting DRAGONSLAYER, which was written, produced and directed by the team of Hal Barwood and Matthew Robbins, and was a co-release of Paramount and the Disney studios.

In April of this year, DRAGONSLAYER will be re-released. The film is worth a first, second, or even third look, if only for the sensual delight and terror of seeing a monstrous, malevolent, fire-breathing dragon come alive.

DRAGONSLAYER represents the true state of the art of stop-motion and mechanical special effects. The opticals and matte-work are so seamless that even the most discerning viewer will not be aware that he or she is watching over 160 special effects during the course of the film.

But the reason that the beast has such impact and the effects stand so tall is that meticulous care was taken in set design, lighting, and costumes to draw the viewer into the primitive, dark, mist-shrouded, grime-soaked world of Britain in the Dark Ages. With a solid script and an excellent cast, this mysterious realm comes to vivid life.

aghast of thousands

Primarily responsible for the creation of DRAGONSLAYER were Hal Barwood and Matthew Robbins. Robbins and Barwood wrote the screenplays for SUGARLAND EXPRESS (directed by Steven Spielberg), MacARTHUR, THE BINGO LONG TRAVELING ALL-STARS AND MOTOR KINGS, and CORVETTE SUMMER, which Barwood and Robbins respectively produced and directed as well. They then set their sights on fantasy and magic.

"For DRAGONSLAYER we rejected traditional medieval conceptions," says Robbins. "Our film has no knights in shining armor, no pennants streaming in the breeze, no delicate ladies with diaphonous veils waving from turreted castles, no courtly love, no holy grail."

"Instead we set out to create a very strange world with a lot of weird customs and values, steeped in superstition, where the clothes and manners of the people were rough, their homes and villages primitive and their countryside almost primeval, so that the idea of magic would be a natural part of their existence. For this reason, we chose Britain during the Dark Ages, after the Romans left and before Christianity arrived."

Barwood and Robbins began work on their screenplay in June, 1979. The picture was filmed in the Pinewood studios outside London and on locations in the Isle of Skye and in the mountains of North Wales.

The story of DRAGONSLAYER is simple, but Barwood and Robbins strive to surprise. In fact, the film has a cruel shock or two for theatergoers expecting the naive tastefulness of a Disney picture.

The brooding peace of Cragganmore, the castle of the sorcerer Ulrich, is rudely disturbed one night by a motley band of travelers from Urland, led by a youth named Valerian (Caitlin Clarke). Galen (Peter MacNicol), Ulrich's apprentice, does not think that his master will give the Urlanders an audience, but he consents to ask.

Meanwhile, however, Ulrich (Sir Ralph Richardson) is entertaining a ghastly vision. Ulrich is the last of the great sorcerers, and there is but one dragon left on earth. In his vision Ulrich sees villages destroyed, innocents slaughtered, the end

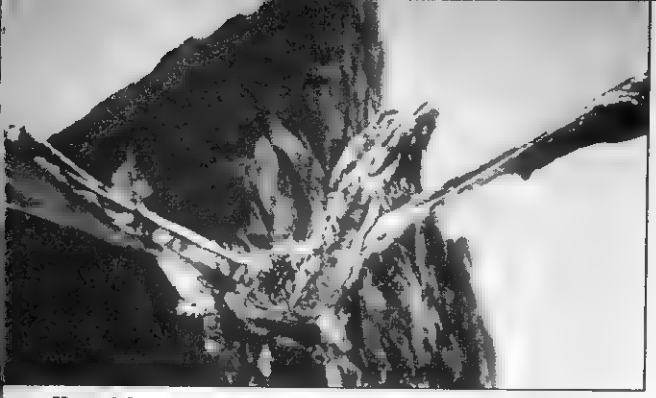
The living nightmare, Vermithrax Pejorative, rears back and belches fire at the gallant Galen. Love, and not sorcery, has saved Galen this time...the beautiful young Valerian has fashioned him a shield made of dragon scales!

of dragons, the end of sorcerers. Galen awakens Ulrich from his vision. Ulrich agrees to see the Urlanders, but even before young Valerian shows him the repellant dragon scale they've brought along, before Valerian explains their plight, Ulrich knows what must be done... and where his fate lies.

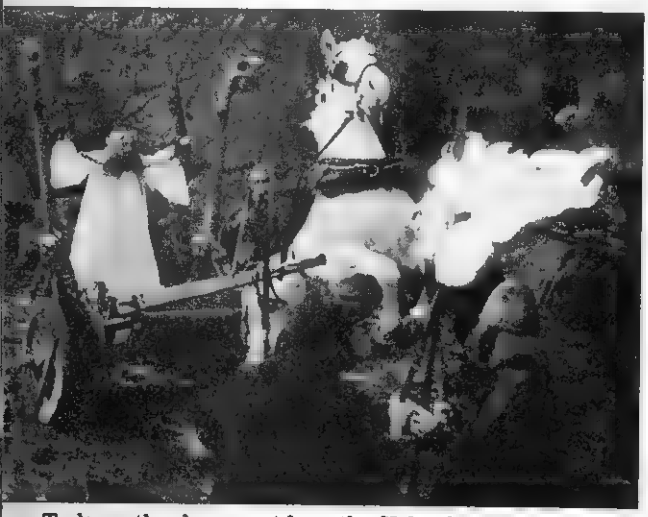
The sorcerer patiently listens as Valerian tells of Vermithrax Pejorative (which sounds like a deadly Latin declension but actually translates as "the deadly worm of Thrace"), a terrible dragon which is ravaging the countryside. No warrior has the skill or courage to defeat it, so the King of Urland has entered a pact with the dragon: The king chooses a virgin by lottery and sacrifices her to the dragon, to keep it more or less quiet. Valerian concludes that only sorcery will end the horror. Will Ulrich help?

Ulrich agrees to do what he can, but before the journey to Urland begins, Tyrian (John Hallam) intervenes. He demands a test of the sorcerer.

The villainous Tyrian (John Hallam) proposes to test the power of Ulrich's (Ralph Richardson) magic while the tense Urlanders await the outcome.



Vermithrax was designed by David Bunnett and Phil Tippett of the ILM studios to look his best while in flight.



To keep the dragon at bay, the Urlanders sacrifice a fair maiden to the beast-an arrangement which isn't fair to the maiden!

Valerian (Caitlin Clarke), while gathering dragon scales, comes face to (ugh!) face with a grotesque dragonlet.

Tyrian is the king's centurion, and he wants no one tampering with the lottery system. Ulrich agrees to a test. He invites Tyrian to stab him in the breast with a dagger. While Galen watches helplessly, the test of sorcery runs its course. Ulrich dies.

The Urlanders have no choice but to take young Galen as their Dragonslayer, though he is young and inexperienced. Galen, grief-stricken over the death of Ulrich, resolves to do the best that he can.

But is Galen's best good enough against the horrible "worm of thrace"? DRAGONSLAYER provides titanic struggles, horrible deaths, betrayals, rejuvenation, false identity, religious hysteria, true love and pure terror in subterranean caverns all leading to an explosive climax... and a sobering lesson for young Galen.

banana appeal

The beautiful young princess in the flowing white gown walks, as if in a trance, into the cavern entrance and is lost in the gloom. We like her. She's cute. She's entering the dragon's lair, but she'll be allright.

When next we see the princess she is dead, and being chewed apart by three repulsive offspring of the dragon. The scene is graphic, horrible, and a quantum leap into horror for the Disney studios, and it transforms the mood of the film instantly into one of pure menace.

The man who designed the three baby dragons in association with Barwood and Robbins is David Bunnett. Bunnett had a unique problem, which he explains: "The plot called for young Galen to slay the dragonettes as they attack him. But in designing the creatures, we found that the baby of any animal we drew was inherently cute and loveable. Every design we came up with provoked a sympathetic response. No one could have endured their slaughter."

It was director Robbins who eventually found inspiration for the dragon babies in the image of a banana slug. Bunnet then created his models in cooperation with Robbins, the crucial feature being the small, beady eyes of the creatures. "The eyes supply the love factor in any small animal," says Bunnett. When filming, the models were manipulated by hand by four English puppeteers from underneath the film set.

But the problems of creating baby dragons were child's play compared to the tasks that oscar-winner Brian Johnson undertook in bringing Vermithrax Pejorative to life. Johnson, who won his academy award for ALIEN, also designed and realized effects for 2001 and THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK. Johnson, in association with the Disney Studios and George Lucas' Industrial Light and Magic, was charged with assembling the effects for DRAGONSLAYER, with a particular eye to the dragon itself.

The Vermithrax seen on the screen is actually a full-size mechanical dragon and a stop-motion

Cornered in the dragon's lair, his magic having failed him, Galen (Peter MacNicol) fights back with desperate courage.

miniature, skillfully blended with optical printing techniques.

The mechanical dragon, fully realized, was 45 feet long and had a 90 foot wing span. The 20 foot long tail was capable of swaying and slashing. The thigh, leg, and claw assembly was called upon to grab and lift a man. The 16 foot head device had fully articulated eyes and jaws, and, in live action, shot 30 foot flames from its mouth.

"The most important actions for the dragon come in the final battle's flying sequence," says David Bunnett. "Because of this action, we decided to design a dragon that looks best when flying. The emphasis on flight dictated that the dragon look light enough to fly and have an enormous wingspan. The key to Vermithrax is the relationship of the brow to the horns. It has a frown and a slightly human, intelligent look. This is a creature with a mind—albeit a malevolent one."

The stop-motion effects were realized at Industrial Light and Magic in California. Chris Walas designed, sculpted, and operated the dragon for the intricate close-up work. But it was Phil Tippett, who previously brought a tauntaun to life in THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK, that took motion control techniques in filming stop motion one step further for DRAGONSLAYER. In doing

Will a mere thrusting spear, no matter how well forged, be enough against the "evil worm of Thrace"?

Not eggsactly the most awesome trick in the world, but young Galen is still learning the extent of his new powers.

The loathsome claw of Vermithrax Pejorative reaches for the luckless winner of the Urland lottery.

Casidorus the King (Peter Eyre) covets the magic amulet that Ulrich gave to Galen.

so, Tippett and the crew of ILM created among the most stunning stop-motion effects ever filmed.

"We had to carry the method further for the dragon," says Tippett. "We felt that current audiences just wouldn't buy a dragon with the jerky look of old stop-motion. We wanted to try to do something that had never really been seen before and that looked more alive than anything previously."

Motion control is the system by which computers control motors that make movement in models. Tippett refined this process by placing the model of the dragon—whose armature was designed for at least sixteen different movements of body—on a pedestal whose movement was, in turn, directed by sixteen separate motors and axes. The dragon could then move sixteen separate body parts simultaneously.

Once programmed, the sequences were filmed in the conventional one-frame-at-a-time stop motion process...but with one crucial difference. Tippett rolled the film while the dragon was in movement, rather than static. This movement caused a blurred image just as any live action shot has. The result was a dragon that walked with almost surreal fluidity.

Ken Ralston of ILM used the same technique for the flying sequences, except that, as in the spaceships in STAR WARS and other space epics, the dragon model is stationary. It is the camera which does the panning, tilting, and zooming to simulate flight.

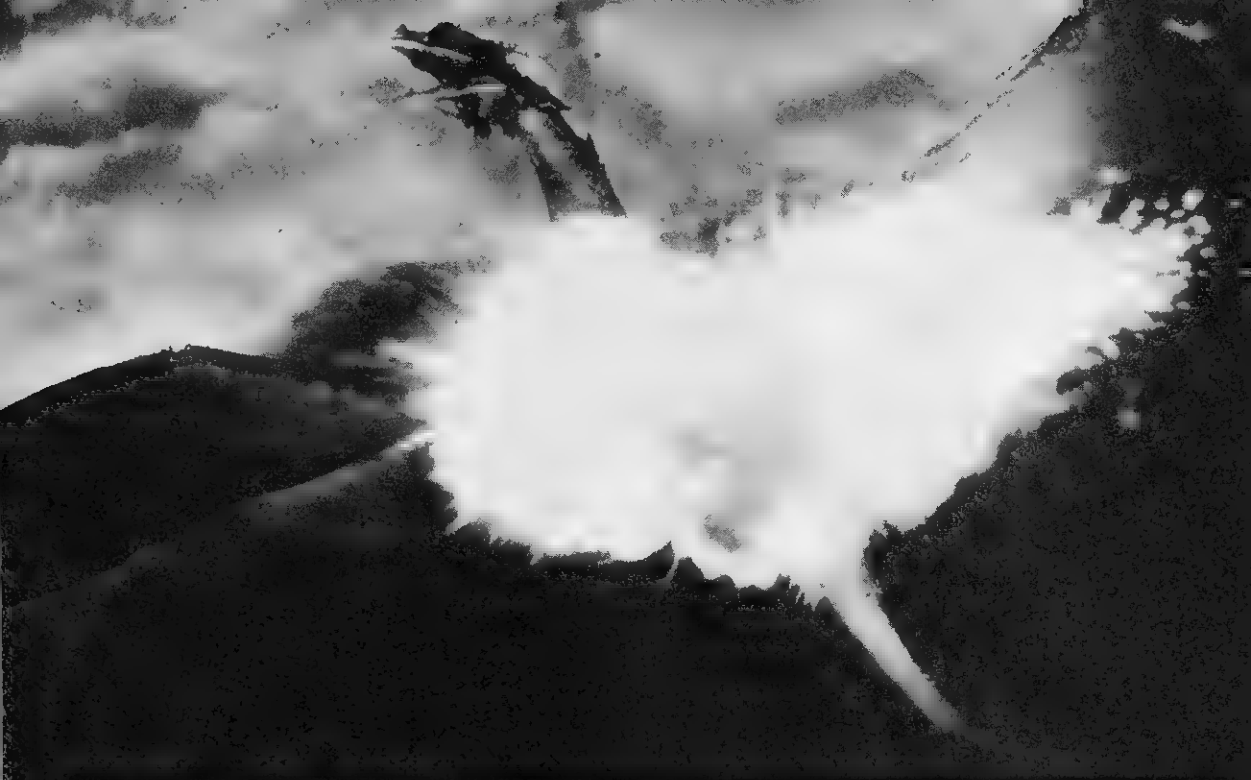
But what good is a dragon without a daunting, volcanic lair? The dragon's lair is a stunning achievement, a towering, frightful cavern with a lake of fire that took up two huge sound studios at Pinewood. It was designed and supervised by Elliot Scott, who also was responsible for the look of the film's villages, castles, and Cragganmore, the decrepit and mysterious keep of the sorcerer Ulrich.

Scott's design was inspired by a childhood visit to the Postojna Caverns in Yugoslavia. "You go into a huge underground cavern. It's like being in St. Paul's cathedral, except that it houses a vast lake."

Fired by his imagination, Scott's work was not in vain. The moments when young Galen discovers the cavern and makes his way to the center of the lake of fire, watching and waiting for the dragon to appear are among the best parts of the film. The camera work skillfully shows us the majestic, frightening lair as it seems to grow larger and larger...until, even before the dragon makes an appearance, we are certain that this young man is in serious trouble.

richardson resplendent

Excellent as it is, DRAGONSLAYER is not without flaws. Many of the scenes don't catch fire, and as a result the film's pace sags. Galen's escape from the King's castle—sword flashing,



At the climax of DRAGONSLAYER, the mighty sorcerer and the towering behemoth are locked in aerial combat...an explosive battle that marks the end of the age of magic.

galloping on horseback through the claustrophobic halls—is curiously flat. Galen's failed show of magic before the King and his retinue gives us all the pain, but little of the comedy, of such a humiliation. Peter MacNicol is technically competent, but not the most compelling of actors. Yet he has his moments, such as his "gee-whiz" look after he has single-handedly toppled a mountain.

The motivation of the villain, could have been easily explained (obviously money; times haven't changed that much), but it never is. Tyrian becomes a random baddie. The actions of the poor princess are woefully, almost comically, suicidal.

But DRAGONSLAYER provides more than enough moments that astonish and delight. The director carefully teases us with the appearance of the dragon, until that stunning moment when it rises behind Galen on the lake of fire. Galen turns. The dragon rises...and rises...and RISES! It spreads its wings, huge as clouds, rears back, dwarfing the young man, and spews an inferno at him.

As Galen wisely flees, Vermithrax pursues him through the gloomy caverns, its cold reptilian eyes confident it will snare its prey. Because of the special effects wizardry, we feel Galen's terror and applaud his courage as he fights back.

No less awesome is the dragon in the air. Rising to a great height, lingering a moment proudly, and then swooping down with an uncanny rush of sound, the dragon spits fire and ignites a village, putting entire tribes to flight.

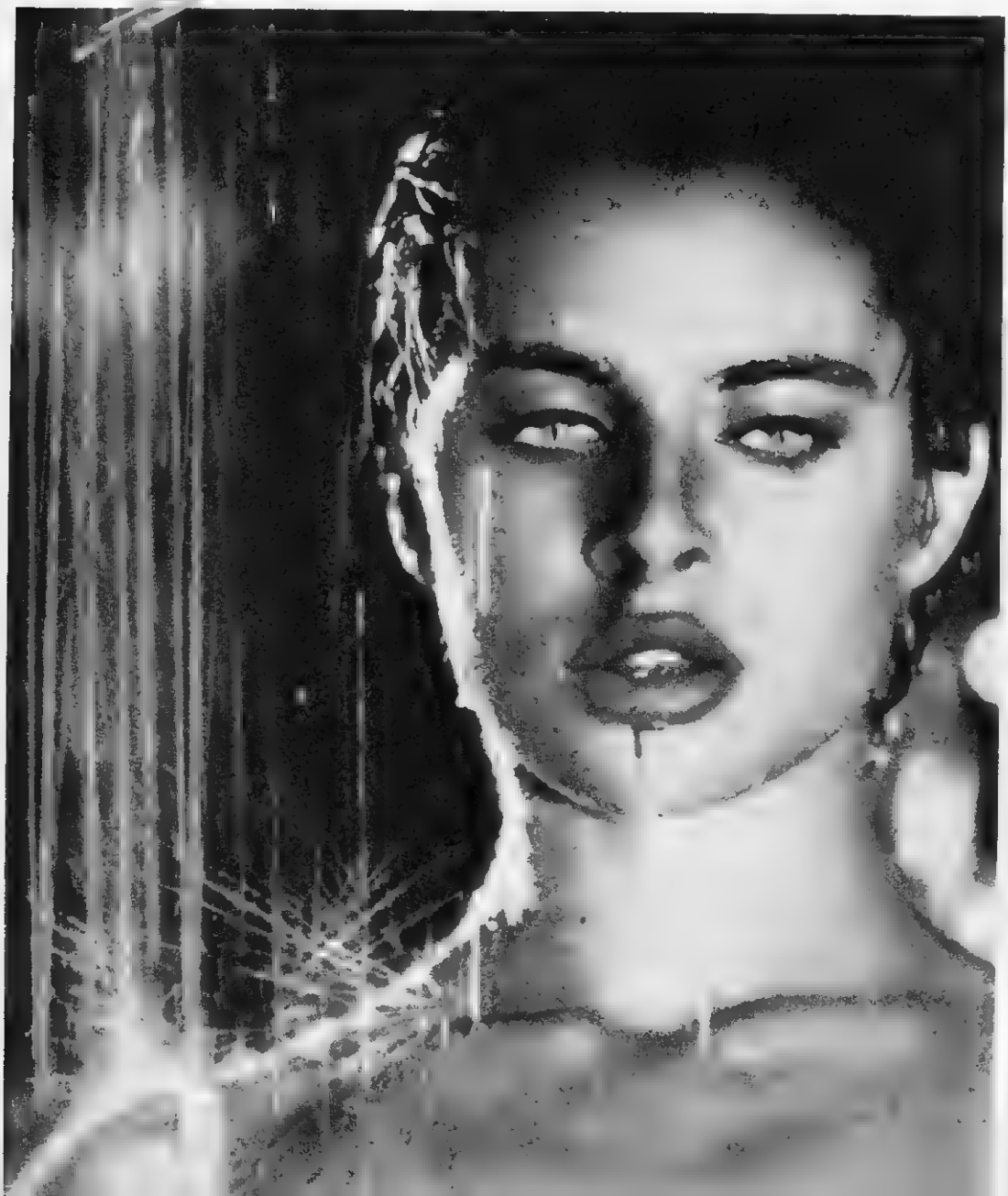
The film is actually made of many smaller moments that draw us into the drama. Ulrich's vision at the beginning of the film is subtly and sensually done, so that we recognize a connection between magic and dreams. The love story is real and touching. The characters grow and change during the course of the film. The actors were well chosen for their appearance and their performing skill. John Hallam as Tyrian and Sydney Bromley as Ulrich's retainer Hodge are particularly fine.

But it is Ralph Richardson as Ulrich who provides a human center for the film. Richardson provides the strength and majesty the film needs so than, on one level, the dragon as special effect will not overwhelm the picture, and on another level, Ulrich the sorcerer is believeable as a small man who can defeat a dragon. Richardson brings wit and energy to his scenes. As Ulrich, a man weighted down with memories and responsibility (and knowledge of the future), Richardson is eccentric, whimsical, weary, courageous, and sympathetic. Richardson as Ulrich is outstanding.

For all its entertainment value, DRAGONSLAYER takes care to remind us that political and religious hypocrisy were not born in the 20th Century. It's a contemporary film of a dark age of man's past...an age of magic.

END

cat people



A Walk on the Wild Side. Things are looking black on this stormy night.

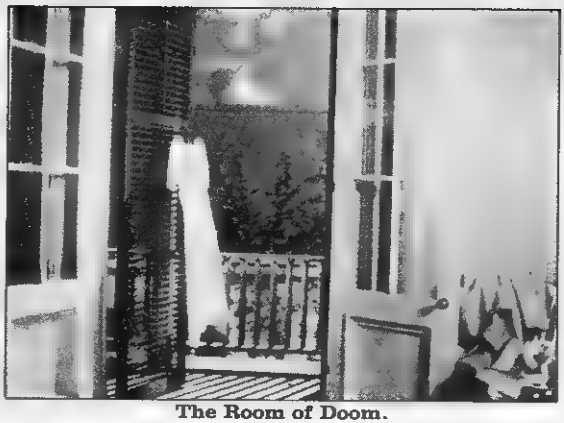
40 YEARS AGO...
THE CAT PEOPLE prowled the screen.
NOW--they're back!
And their backs are up.
And the hackles on the back of your necks may soon rise!

more lives than 9

The scripter of the *new* CAT PEOPLE is Alan Ormsby and so far in his young life he's led *27* lives, so to speak! He's been actor, cartoonist, makeup artist, toy designer, book author (for children), playwright, and writer & director of low-budget horror films, among many other occupations.

Alan started out like many another young fan, reading **FAMOUS MONSTERS**, discovering (or being discovered by) the fanzine *Black Oracle* (whose editor George "Bloody Hunks" Stover is one of our "Lo, Ghoul Boys" who has made good). He was bowled over by KING KONG & FRANKENSTEIN and has seen Disney's PINOCCHIO more than a dozen times. In 1975 he created the book "Movie Monsters" and 3 years later landed a dream assignment, to script the new version of the Val Lewton classic, THE CAT PEOPLE.

The female feline spells fear.



The Room of Doom.

See the picture and discover the scary meaning of this scene.

Prelude to CATastrophe...

"Actually," Alan says, "THE CAT PEOPLE is not a remake of the original, except in a technical sense. Like THE THING, there are many divergences from the first film. The Lewton CAT PEOPLE was great in its day, as was THE THING, but now Carpenter is bringing John Campbell's 'Who Goes There?' to the screen as Campbell no doubt would've liked to have seen it done while he was alive, and the new version of THE CAT PEOPLE is a state-of-the art picture, a modernized version of what was done in 1942."

the cat's meow

Perhaps at this point we should time travel back 40 years and acquaint you with the plot of the *first* film about the feline folk.

THE CAT PEOPLE (1942)

The story opens in a most unusual way. A lovely young girl, Irena Dubrovna (SIMONE SIMON), is sketching in a park: a highly offbeat picture of a panther with a sword piercing its side. Dissatisfied with her drawings, she keeps throwing them on the ground and has created a considerable mess when a young man approaches her and, a twinkle in his eye, quotes a poem:

Let no one say it to your face
And say it to your shame
That this all was beauty
Before you came.

Irena, a bit embarrassed, admits she was absentminded. She is attracted to the young man, *Oliver Reed* (!!!!!) (KENT SMITH) and soon they're in love and are to be married. But--

Irena is afraid she might harm her love because of legends of her home country. She has heard that in her native village in the Carpathians, a long time before the Crusades, evil reigned and the women became withches and the men warlocks. Because of the buried hatred, evil & jealousy in them, the women had the power to turn into cats if they kissed their lovers. Not ordinary small felines of house-cat size but huge jungle brutes. The beasts would *kill* their lovers. Irena's mother was one of these sinister shape-changers when she died and the terror has haunted Irena all her life that hers is tainted blood and to kiss Oliver might mean to kill him.

"The Cat at the Table"

"Don't be silly, darling." Oliver calms Irena's fears. The wedding takes place. All goes well. But that night, at the celebration feast, Irena's fears are roused again when a friend of Oliver's, Jim Carver (Alan Napier),innocently remarks of a guest, "Doesn't she look remarkably like a cat?"

The "cat woman" comes to the table and whispers something in Irena's ear. Something In Irena's native tongue that causes her to shudder and cross herself. Oliver's friend Alice (Jane Randolph), observes Irena's discomfort and tries to calm her evident nervousness.

Is this Skeleton the Key to the Mystery?

"Feline Folk? A Joke!"

Alice persuades Irena to see a psychiatrist she recommends. Dr. Judd (Tom Conway) sees Irena in his clinic and, not believing her story about a race of cat people, attempts to exorcize her superstitious belief. But even his treatments fail to disabuse Irena of her firm conviction and her unfortunate state of mind causes friction between her & her husband.

For some time Alice has secretly been in love with Oliver and now he begins to realize he feels an emotion toward her that is more than casual.

When Irena refuses to visit the psychiatrist any longer and keeps herself from Oliver (for fear of killing him), Oliver breaks down and confesses to her that he has become attracted to Alice. *This triggers the murder mania in Irena!*

Irena's jealousy becomes hatred and she follows Alice one night as she leaves work to catch a bus. Alice has an eerie feeling that something is stalking her. She escapes harm but in a nearby zoo some sheep are slaughtered that night as if by *a big cat.*

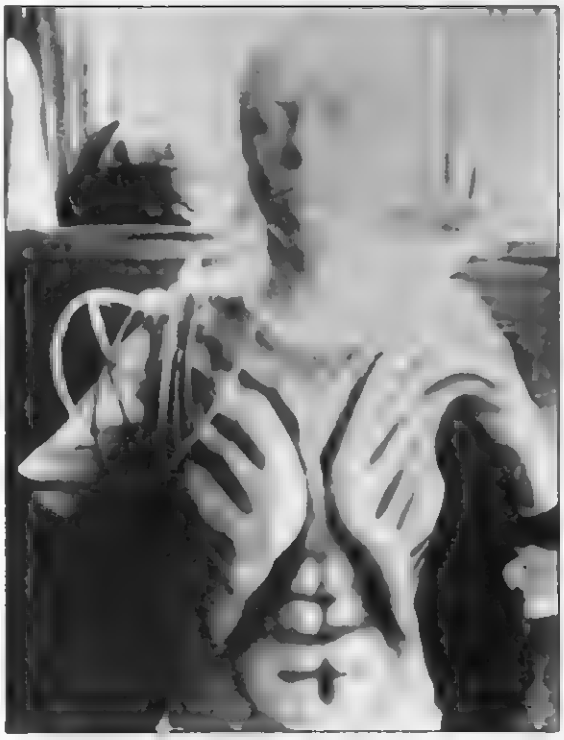
"Panther!"

The next day Irena phones Oliver in his office.

Alice answers.

Irena hangs up.

Alice suspects the mysterious caller was Irena and informs Oliver. They are about to leave the office when a huge shape suddenly materializes. It is like a giant panther, attacking them! Seiz-



The Shape(changer) of Things to Claw.

ing a T-square from his architect's table, Oliver brandishes it like a crucifix and cries, "In the name of God, leave us in peace!"

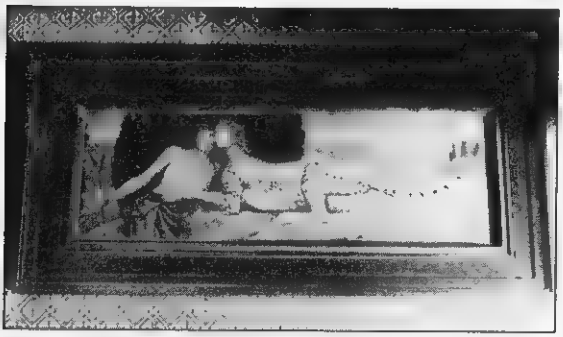
The shadow of the T-square, like that of a cross, causes the "thing" to slink away.

That night a weeping Irena tries to communicate to Oliver what happened but he doesn't believe her. "You *must* see the psychiatrist again!" he orders her.

In the hotel where Alice stays is a swimming pool. Alice goes for a swim. This is one of the classic scenes in the picture. She hears the coughing of a huge invisible beast of prey. A creepy shadow darkens the waters, encircles the lone swimmer. Alice's screams of terror bring an attendant running and her bathrobe is found torn to shreds. But no prowling panther is to be seen--only Irena, in her natural human form.

"Deadly Cure"

The psychiatrist has become enamored of the intriguing Irena. He decides to wait for her at her apartment. When she arrives there she is surprised to find him waiting to greet her. She



Can you spot the Leopard Woman?

permits him to accompany her inside where, once in her room, he drops his psychiatrist's mask and reveals his human bestiality. He grabs her, declaring he is going to cure her once & for all of her foolish fixation.

Outside, occupants of the hotel hear a ferocious snarling.

Inside is--madness.

Judd is hurled against the wall. He grabs his cane and whips a sword from its sheath. He confronts something that we do not see but can easily conjecture the nature of.

We hear a jungle denizen snarl.

At this moment Oliver & Alice are entering the building. They hear a hideous, bloodcurdling scream. They rush upstairs.

"The Blade that Bled"

At the top of the stairs, outside Irena's room, Oliver & Alice encounter a crowd. The screaming people are paralyzed by the sight of --something.

Oliver pushes thru the crowd. On the floor, torn & mangled as tho by a maddened jungle beast, is the dead body of Judd. Oliver notes that the psychiatrist's sword-cane is broken in half and half of it is gone.

Oliver turns to Alice. Their eyes meet. There is a stark realization in both their gazes: this is the work of Irena and at this very moment *half the sword blade is imbedded in her body!*

"The zoo!" Oliver is convinced that is where his wife has headed. The panther there has always fascinated her.

At that moment the wounded Irena is opening the panther's cage. The animal leaps out, knocking over Irena and killing her.

The beast, in turn, is run over by a taxi and killed.

When Oliver & Alice arrive on the scene, Oliver bends over the broken lifeless body of Irena. Convinced now of the existence of the supernatural, of shape-changers and that the woman he loved became a lethal feline, "She never lied to us," he says sadly.

the new breed of cat

How Nastassia Kinski will differ from Simone Simon in her portrayal of the role of the cat woman will be fascinating to observe. Nastassia, of course, is the daughter of Klaus (NOSFERATU) Kinski.

Malcolm McDowell is no stranger to films of the fantastic, from "IF..." to A CLOCKWORK ORANGE to HGWells himself in TIME AFTER TIME. He plays Irena's brother Paul.

This time round John Heard plays the lover, Oliver. (It is not known at this writing if he is still lastnamed Reed, altho one would tend to doubt it in view of its being the name of a well-known actor.)

Director Paul Schrader's previous pictures have, he says, been "about daydreams." This time he's involved with a nightmare!

A timeless myth...a bizarre destiny...a fantasy of terror & passion...are terms used to describe the new CAT PEOPLE.

The famous Tom Burman Studios are responsible for the spfx makeup. The cat vision sequence has been created by Robbie Blalack.

Have you ever seen a Popup Book? A Buck Rogers collectors item or a Flash Gordon, where you open a volume and something--a rocket, a city, a monster--springs up before your eyes? Well, don't close your eyes in the picture when a panther's belly is slit open--and be ready for a shock.

DEAD OF NIGHT...DERANGED...CHILDREN SHOULDN'T PLAY WITH DEAD THINGS--these have been previous horror films with which Ormsby has been associated. He has a 14-year-old son, Ethan. "My son has read the script."

"Will he be seeing the picture?"

"Definitely!"

WANTED! More Readers Like *Ethan Ormsby!*

END

MYSTERY PHOTO

#141 Pretty?
Well, scary!
The actor?

We'll give you a clue: there's an Eric in his name, like the Phantom of the Opera. He also appears in the new fantasy hit, HARLEQUIN.

If you read our feature this issue on "Famous Barbarians of Filmland," that's another clue as to the title of the picture in which B.C. (the actor's initials, not B.C. as in ONE MILLION B.C.) appeared.

If you still can't figure out the film, try rearranging these scrambled words:

AH ANN I GOLD GORT DEATH

ANSWER

MYSTERY PHOTO No. 140

THE LOST CITY. Amongst those who identified Mystery Photos in recent issues are BRIAN YORK, MIKE MORRISON, PAUL DORICH, FRANCISCO GONZALEZ, COLIN GRAHAM, VINCENT BAIO, CHAS. GOLDMAN, SCOTT WYLES, MARK BURGER, SHANE HANNAFEY, TOM STANZIOLA & RONALD NICHOLS.

CONAN

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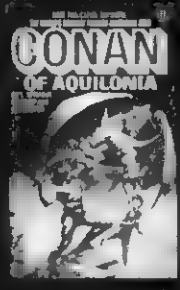
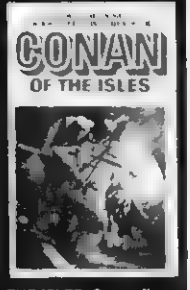


AQUILONIA: Conan is drawn into deadly pursuit when he loses his son to Thon-Amon and the evil wizards! #21249—$2.25



THE ISLES: Conan flees the peace & safety of his kingdom when a sudden catastrophe shatters his origin! #21250—$2.25

B. C. = BEFORE CONAN

Famous Barbarians of Filmland

ATLAS!
SAMSON!
GOLIATH!
MACISTE!
ULYSSES!
HERCULES!
Legendary strongmen of yore.
Before Conan.

ATLAS against the Cyclops

*****

SAMSON (1914)
SAMSON and the 7 Miracles of the World
SAMSON and Delilah (6 versions)
SAMSON and the Mighty Challenge
SAMSON and the Slave Queen
SAMSON in King Solomon's Mines
SAMSON in the Wax Museum
SAMSON vs. the Giant King
SAMSON vs. the Pirates
SAMSON vs. the Vampire Women

*****

GOLIATH Against the Giants
GOLIATH and the Dragon
GOLIATH and the Golden City
GOLIATH and the Sins of Babylon
GOLIATH and the Vampires

*****

MACISTE (1915)
MACISTE and the King of Samar
MACISTE Brothers
MACISTE in Hell
MACISTE (Marvelous)
MACISTE Spartan Gladiator

*****

ULYSSES (1907/1954)
ULYSSES Against the Son of Hercules
ULYSSES and Giant Polyphemus

*****

HERCULES
HERCULES Against the Barbarians
HERCULES Against the Moon Men
HERCULES Against Rome
HERCULES Against the Sons of the Sun
HERCULES and the Big Stick
HERCULES and the Captive Women
HERCULES and the Giant Warriors
HERCULES and the Queen of Lidia
HERCULES and the Tyrants of Babylon
HERCULES in the Haunted World
HERCULES in New York
HERCULES in the Regiment
HERCULES in the Vale of Woe
HERCULES the Invincible
HERCULES, Maciste, Samson & Ursus vs. the Universe
HERCULES of the Desert
HERCULES Prisoner of Evil
HERCULES Samson & Ulysses
HERCULES Unchained
HERCULES vs. the Giant Warriors

*****

In addition to the aforementioned Barbarian Films there have also been URSUS, URSUS IN THE VALLEY OF LIONS, SON OF HERCULES IN THE LAND OF FIRE, and films originally featuring Maciste have had the title character changed to Samson, as in *MACISTE* AT THE COURT OF THE CZAR becoming *SAMSON* VS. THE GIANT KING and even *ATLAS* AGAINST THE CZAR! *SAMSON* AND THE SLAVE QUEEN was originally titled (in Italy, its country of origin) *ZORRO* VS. *MACISTE! HERCULES* AGAINST THE BARBARIANS was originally titled *MACISTE* IN GENGIS KHAN'S HELL! Well, that could be a whole other article, trying to untangle Who Became Who. Suffice it to say that these legendary figures, whether played by Reg Park or Reg Lewis or Mark Forest or Alan Steel or Rock Stevens or Kirk Morris or Steve

GOLIATH AND THE DRAGON. Guess who won this contest?

HERCULES (alias MACISTE) AGAINST THE MOONMEN. How would you caption this still? Can you improve on "Don't spike until you're spoken to?"

Victor Mature as Tumak the Barbarian, ONE MILLION B.C., with fainting captive, Carole (Loana) Landis, slung over his strong caveman shoulder.

Mark Forest fights a Ghost Rider on horseback in MACISTE AND THE NIGHT QUEEN.

HERCULES (1959), seeking the Golden Fleece, arrives on the island of Colchis and, together with the Argonauts, must fight these savage natives.

An Atlantean Alien in HERCULES AND THE CAPTIVE WOMEN.

Reeves or Don Knotts *(Don Knotts–?!* Just wanted to make sure you were awake and paying attention), they all had one thing in common:

MUSCLES!

And they used them on everything from boulders to other barbarians, from dungeons to dragons! Much as we'll be seeing Arnold Schwarzenegger do in–

CONAN!

out of the past

From our premium priced 34th issue, way back in 1965, we now revive the material for you as a sample of a Maciste film...which became HERCULES AGAINST THE MOONMEN.

The Italian Superman of the past, Maciste, has fought human vampires, faceless men, even gone to Hell.

Now it's MACISTE VS. THE STONE MEN.

It all begins in the ancient city of Samar when an enormous ball of fire appears in the sky and smacks into the earth. Shortly thereafter, strange beings appear in the mountain near Samar...strange beings of stone.

The queen of the stone men, Selene, lies in a mysterious trance, and it is believed that the only way to revive her is for a royal youth who resembles her to be sacrificed.

Gladius, Prime Minister of Samar, does not like the way things are going and sends for the only man capable of combatting the menace of the stone men: Maciste!

Before he can prevent it, a young girl, Bilis, is captured by the stone men. When Maciste attempts to rescue her, he himself is set upon by the stone men and taken in chains to the subterranean chambers beneath the palace of Samar where Bilis is being prepared for sacrifice.

But Maciste escapes and saves Bilis.

The stars in their courses approach a mystical conjunction: will their stellar rays & vibrations bring Queen Selene back to life?

See the picture and you will see a lot of action and learn the answer to this and other questions.

howard's hero

For those of you who want to *read* about the fabulous adventures of Conan the Barbarian in the Hyborean Age, here are titles for you to seek out in hardcover or paperback form:

"Conan" (pb)
"Conan" the Adventurer" (pb)
"Conan" of Aquilonia" (pb)
"Conan" the Avenger" (pb)
"Conan" the Buccaneer" (pb)
"Conan" of Cimmeria" (pb)
"Conan" the Conqueror" (hc)
"The Coming of Conan" (hc)
"Hour of the Dragon" (hc)
"King of the Dragon" (hc)
"King Conan" (hc)
and
"The Return of Conan" (hc)

Mighty Maciste (Heavyweight Hercules) goes down like a rock with a sock from one of the stony Moonmen.

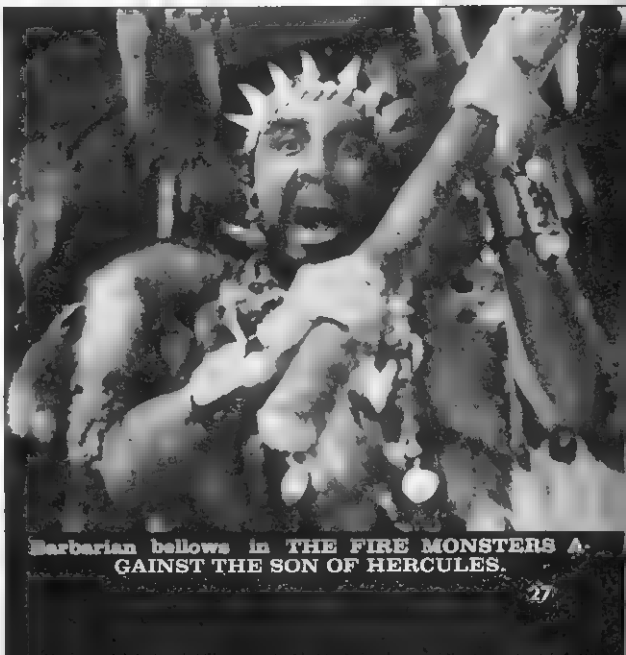
Plus: you might want to get hold of the hardcover books "The Conan Reader" & "The Swordbook of Conan".

turn back the clock

A long out-of-print Collectors Item is our 31st issue of FM, back in 1964. In it we featured GIANT OF METROPOLIS, a tale of 10,000 years hence.

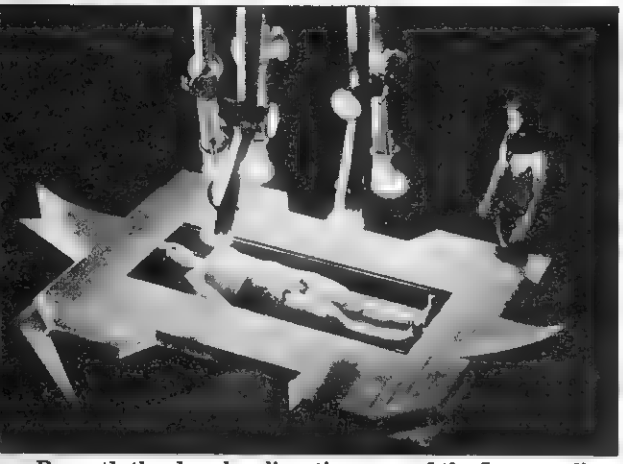
Why are we reviving material on a film of millenia from now in a feature about barbarians? Because this movie was originally produced as a story of a strongman of 10,000 years in *Atlantis* in a time before recorded history rather than ahead in practically 12,000 A.D. So when you look at the pictures and read the story, just think of it all happening in Atlantis about 8000 B.C.

And then think of B.C. as meaning Barbarian Conan and, after completing this article, maybe you'll have some inkling of the kind of picture to expect from CONAN...or KRULL...or THONGOR.



Barbarian bellows in THE FIRE MONSTERS AGAINST THE SON OF HERCULES.

The Huge Horrible Hairy Mad GIANT OF METROPOLIS and the Great Bare-Handed Battle between him and the Danger-Defying Hero of the Picture, the Man Named Obro.



Beneath the dread radioactive rays of the Immortality Experimentation Machine! Obro's mind is a whirlpool of horror as he closes his eyes to keep from being blinded. Life—or death?

At the mercy of the curiously clad warriors of Metropolis, Obro wonders what is in store for him at the hands of these captors who almost resemble robots in their strange helmets & garments.

Who knows? If there's a Barbarian Cycle, maybe the moviemakers will even discover "I AM A Barbarian" by none other than Edgar Rice Burroughs himself! It would be...*barbaric*...if they didn't.

It is the fantastically far distant year of 12,000 A.D.!

Across a burning desert waste, a hell-hot land of volcanic sand, a small band of future-men struggle. They are led on their mysterious mission by an old old man.

The torturous trip is too much for the old one. He dies. But not before he has revealed the secret of the expedition to–Obro.

Obro the giant (Mitchell Gordon), mightiest man on earth...10,000 years from now.

After the old man's death, Obro leads his men on...on to a fate of which they have not dreamed.

A violent volcanic storm erupts!–filling the air with branding blasts of burning sands. The men panic, stumble about blindly in pain & dismay, one by one fall down before the force of the fiery phenomenon. And those who fall, never rise again. One by one they succumb to the desert sands, to die.

Only Obro the gigantic survives.

Only to be overpowered by minions of Metropolis!

the cruel king's creatures

Struggling for his freedom, Obro is dragged before Yotar the cruel, King of Metropolis.

Metropolis! Fabled city of super-advanced civilization where science reigns supreme and all secrets of nature are known to the inhabitants except the last, the most important of all–the secret of immortality.

King Yotar is determined to have the secret at any cost. He plans to make his own son the world's first immortal man. Yes, Elmos shall live forever–if his father is successful.

To his end, King Yotar plans to sacrifice his new captive–if necessary. Obro shall be the subject of all the immortality tests, no matter how dreadful they may be.

During his enforced stay in Metropolis, Obro at one time encounters a pack of fiendish dwarves, horrible misshapen but powerful men who dart & dance about him like savage wolves. The frightful way these monstrous killers have of dealing death is by biting their victims to bloody shreds!

peril upon peril

Obro narrowly escapes death at the teeth of the small assassins, only to be confronted by a new menace–the Giant of Metropolis!

The huge hairy monster of Metropolis is not only as powerful as Obro but–he is mad!

The battle between Obro and the mad Giant is a terrible sight to see & hear, packed with grunts & groans, screams & moans, and–finally–death for one of the mighty wrestlers.

Obro–lives.

His face & body covered with 3d Degree Burns, this creature which once was human is the horrible result of an angry command from King Yotar of Metropolis, Dictator of Life & Death.

terror & torture

Now Obro must undergo the weird experiments devised by Yotar's scientists, experiments aimed at prolonging the life of a man–even if they shorten the life of Obro.

Fortunately for Obro, he finds favor in the eyes of Queen Texon, the second wife of Yotar, who saves him from torture & death.

And there is a lovely princess, named Mesede, who falls in love with Obro.

But–is that Obro's heart which is trembling–or the earth itself?

the end of metropolis

Suddenly, there is a tremendous earth tremor!

The very foundations of the super-scientific city of Metropolis rock.

Roll.

Flash fires break out!

Dams & floodgates burst, drowning thousands like rats in a maze!

The crust of the tired old earth crumbles in the greatest cataclysm since legendary Atlantis sank beneath the waves thousands of years before.

Mad Yotar...his evil son...all the doomed people of Metropolis disappear into the depths of the sea.

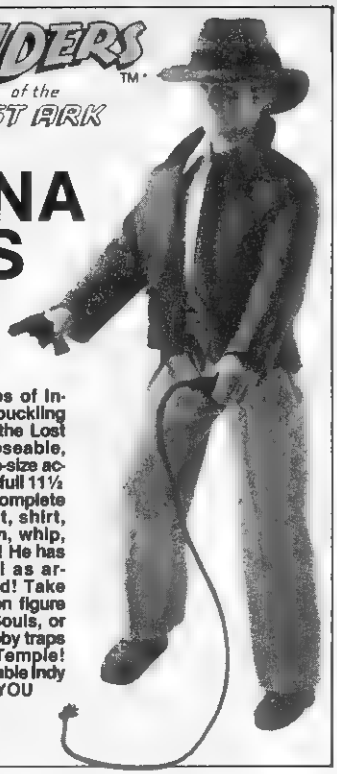
And Obro?

You must see for yourself!

As the minions of Metropolis pin him to the earth with their strange but deadly hand-weapons, the future looks very dark for Obro.

RAIDERS of the LOST ARK™*

INDIANA JONES ACTION FIGURE!



Recreate the adventures of Indiana Jones, the swashbuckling hero of "The Raiders of the Lost Ark," with this fully poseable, authentically styled, large-size action figure! Indy stands a full 11½ inches tall and comes complete with removable felt hat, shirt, leather-look jacket, gun, whip, holster, pants, and boots! He has bendable legs as well as articulated arms and head! Take your Indiana Jones action figure down into the Well of Souls, or through the insidious booby traps of the ancient Mayan Temple! There is no limit to the trouble Indy can get into...because YOU imagine the adventures!
#26319–$19.95

*TM: © Lucasfilm, LTD (LFL) 1981

FIFTY-FIVE PIECE PLAY SET

GODZILLA

Just imagine the exciting battles you can stage between Godzilla and the Tricephalon monster! Set includes missile-firing destroyer, 30 x 30" poly play sheet, and diorama set for making bridge, trees, diner, silo and two different background scenes, one of city docks, one of crumbling skyscrapers! Instructions included. #26145–$8.50

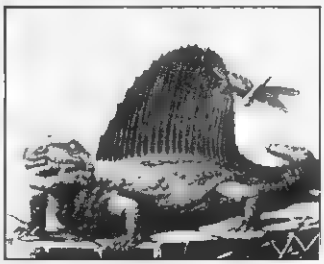
- Giant Godzilla
- 7" long Tricephalon Monster
- 18 Civilians
- 18 Soldiers
- Missile-firing Destroyer
- 2 Jeeps
- 2 Tanks
- Ambulance
- F-111 Jet Fighters
- Police & Fire Cars
- Diorama Set
- Poly Play Sheet
- Instructions

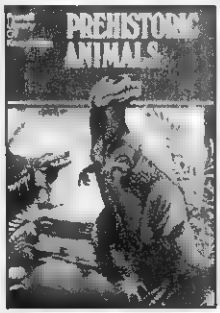
DINOSAURS!

TAKE A TERRIFYING TRIP TO THE PREHISTORIC PAST!

GIANT BIRD: Twenty-nine snap-together pieces form a striking Phorrhacos! Movable beak, wings and legs! Terrain base with nest, flying lizard, more! #2434–$3.00

SAIL BACK REPTILE: Thirty-nine pieces snap together to form a fearsome Dimetrodon! Over 10½" long, it has a movable head with opening mouth & movable tongue, and movable legs, feet and tail! Detailed terrain base includes swamp pool, plants, insects! #24105–$3.20

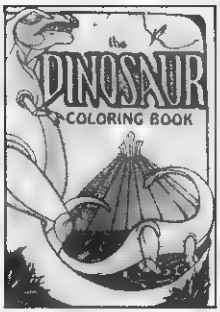




PREHISTORIC ANIMALS: Detailed study of the age of reptiles, extensively illustrated with black & white and color drawings and fossil photographs! A truly handsome 94-page hardcover! #21084–$2.95

DINOSAUR DICTIONARY: An absolute glut of facts, features and creatures, in alphabetical order, complete with more than 400 illustrations! An invaluable reference work! 218 pages, softcover. #21009–$7.95

THE DINOSAURS: Large, beautifully illustrated paperbound volume with over 70 pages in full color! A scientifically accurate look at the way dinosaurs lived...more fascinating than fantasy itself! #21439–$12.95



DINOSAUR COLORING BOOK: Fifteen incredible drawings of the fearsome kings of evolution, with more tantalizing tidbits of information than you can shake a stegosaur at! Plus cut-out mobile! #21091–$2.00

PEN-A-POSTER: The most terrifying wall hanging any do-it-yourself poster freak could ask for! Contains 14½ x 39" design on high quality paper, and all the colors you'll need to create a prehistoric masterpiece! #2695–$4.50

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.

GODZILLA

the jolly japanese jiant

by Lindy Permal

500 FEET TALL!
Carnivorous!
A destroyer of all within his immense reach!
Spawned by the Atomic Age!—That's GODZILLA!
(That's Godzilla?!)

Well, that's the way he *used* to be, long before he battled such atrocities as the Smog Monster Hedorah or Ebirah the Sea Monster or the insectoid Megalon or Gigan or Spiga or the Bionic (Cosmic) Monster (in reality, "Mechagodzilla").

It is interesting to note that when Godzilla first stomped onto the cinema screen he was one monster you wouldn't want to fool around with! And yet, 20 years after his "birth" (in the first of the series, the 1954 GODZILLA—KING OF THE MONSTERS), the zing went out of the 'zilla. In pix of the 1970s, children called upon Godzilla to actually *help* battle other unfriendly creatures. Sad to say: Godzilla is simply not fearful any longer.

foe he's a jolly go(o)d fellow!

After Godzilla raised heck with Japan in GODZILLA VS. THE THING (GODZILLA VS. MOTHRA), the giant beast with that awful radioactive breath began, in his next picture, to become one of the "good guys," so to speak. That picture was GHIDRAH, THE 3-HEADED MONSTER (1965) and it pitted Godzilla against an even meaner monster (occasionally referred to as "King Ghidorah") from outer space. Ghidrah was so ornery it took the combined efforts of

The first the world saw of GODZILLA, way back in 1956.

Even Godzilla thinks twice (and holds his nose) when getting this close to THE SMOG MONSTER.

Godzilla meets a different THING than John Campbell's multimorph.

Is that "Tadzilla" on the ground with Megalon looking on? From MONSTER ZERO.

Mothra (from 1961's MOTHRA AND GODZILLA VS. THE THING) and Rodan (from 1957's RODAN) to thwart Ghidrah's quest for mass destruction. At one point in the movie, Mothra & Rodan (speaking "monster talk," as we are told!) actually have to convince Godzilla to help them battle Ghidrah. Once the awesome reptile assents to such a plan, he no longer seems, well, *menacing*.

a long road toho

After Ghidrah joined the ranks of Toho Film's repertoire of beastly beings, Godzilla was no longer the most-feared monster that had ever walked the Earth (or flew over it or burrowed under it, either). Ghidrah had *stolen* Godzilla's Mantle of Menace!

Therefore, Toho followed up GHIDRAH, THE 3-HEADED MONSTER with ever more films "starring" Ghidrah, which had the effect of relegating Godzilla to the background, until he was called upon (with predictable regularity) to dispose of the 3-headed beast again & again. (You'll see such antics in Toho productions like MONSTER ZERO, DESTROY ALL MONSTERS, and others.) Godzilla's name no longer appeared in the film titles (except for a few late 1960s & '70s pix which I'll discuss in a moment) and Toho's first real terror-creature was effectively reduced to playing "bite parts" (er, "bit parts"). An occasional production, like GODZILLA VS. THE SEA MONSTER (1966), used the name but failed to make much of an impression on filmgoers. The public, evidently, wanted newer, "differenter," uglier & meaner monsters—so that's what Toho gave 'em!

destroy all monsters, they said!

1968's DESTROY ALL MONSTERS costarred Godzilla alongside a virtual circus of other assorted creatures (some of which had been dragged out of old Toho pix, like Manda from ATRAGON).

Then came the 1970s and Toho's once-classic creature became . . . to all intents and purposes . . . a giant buffoon armed only with radioactive breath! GODZILLA VS. THE SMOG MONSTER, GODZILLA ON MONSTER ISLAND, GODZILLA VS. THE COSMIC (BIONIC) MONSTER, GODZILLA VS. MEGALON . . . all these served to lessen the quality of the series and finally destroy any semblance of the studio's original 1955 creation.

one last chance

After the Bionic (Cosmic) Monster film, in which Godzilla battled a full-size "Mechagodzilla"—a mechanical replica of himself—Toho made an attempt to return Godzilla to his former greatness with what is (as of this date) the final feature in the long-running series: THE TERROR OF MECHAGODZILLA.

GHIDRAH THE THREE-HEADED MONSTER...headed Godzilla's way.

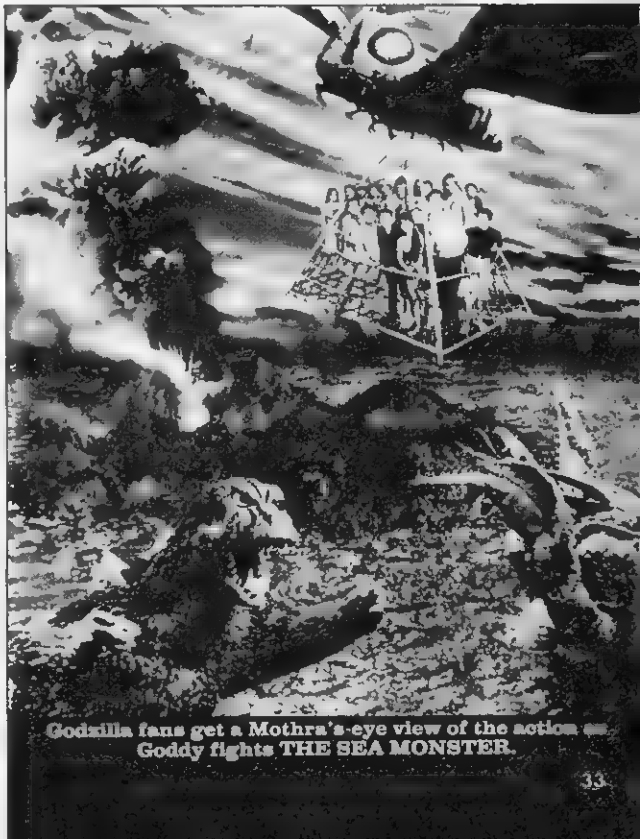
Altho TERROR OF MECHAGODZILLA was made in 1976, it did not reach American shores until 3 years later, where it was then given a very limited release. However, you can catch it on television under the theatrical title.

the return of ishiro honda

Does that name sound familiar? Ishiro Honda (also known on some Toho films as Inoshiro Honda) directed the first GODZILLA, RODAN, and all of the best Toho monster movies. Honda was not called upon to work on the Godzilla pictures of the late '60s & '70s. When Toho finally asked for his directorial services in connection with THE TERROR OF MECHAGODZILLA, the damage to the Godzilla image had already been done (by other lesser directors); and yet, Honda managed to make THE TERROR OF MECHAGODZILLA a quality film—not quite as good as his earlier works but much much better than the 1970s Godzilla pix. In Japan the picture was titled THE RETURN OF THE MECHAGODZILLA, while during a 1977 release in France it was called MONSTERS FROM THE LOST CONTINENT.

something fishy this way comes

The film opens with scenes incorporated from the preceding film in the series (GODZILLA VS. THE BIONIC/COSMIC MONSTER). We notice,



Godzilla fans get a Mothra's-eye view of the action as Goddy fights THE SEA MONSTER.

however, that when Godzilla destroyed his mechanical counterpart, the robot-godzilla's head landed intact in an ocean. When a research team sends a submarine to locate the head, the crew is attacked by a fearsome monster—a fish-like dinosaur. Officials later recall that such a creature was supposedly discovered some 2 decades earlier by an eccentric: Dr. Mafune, who christened the beast "Titanosaur."

Unknown to these officials, Mafune is now secretly working with aliens from another solar system who plan to resurrect the Mechagodzilla. Meanwhile, they gain mind-control of Titanosaur and send the creature on a rampage of destruction.

Then, in the far distance of a cold, eerie night, the King of Monsters rises up: Godzilla! Godzilla is determined not to let this new beast invade his "territory" and so persuades him to leave in no uncertain terms. But Titanosaur is not seriously wounded. He returns later for the final battle with Godzilla. And Titanosaur does not return alone; the aliens, controlling the new Mechagodzilla, send both monsters into the cities and Godzilla is nearly crushed beneath their dual onslaught. Finally Titanosaur is felled by a newly-repaired sonar weapon. Then it is Godzilla against his own metallic double!

"Why me?" Godzilla asks as the word goes out to DESTROY ALL MONSTERS.

Behind the scenes with the late Eiji Tsuburaya of Godzilla fame.

Rare behind-the-scenes shot during filming of DESTROY ALL MONSTERS.

a trio of terrible titans

Titanosaur continues to destroy submarines & ships in the nearby waters. By a freak accident, one sub's sonar device is activated and it is discovered that the monster is repulsed by the sounds. Officials immediately begin work on a special "sonar cannon" to battle Titanosaur.

But the sonar cannon is sabotaged and Titanosaur leaves his watery depths to ravage the cities of Japan.

double the terror, double the fun

Mechagodzilla seems indestructible! No matter what Godzilla does, the monstrous piece of metallic machinery steadily increases its attacks, complete with death-rays & supersonic missiles!

What the lumbering, 500-foot creature cannot know, however, is that Mechagodzilla's controls are imbedded inside the flesh of a living human being! So no matter what punishment Godzilla inflicts on this steel monster, he can never actually disable the controls!

Meanwhile, Interpol police discover the secret base of the aliens. There, Dr. Mafune is killed and

11—count 'em—11 monsters in action in DESTROY ALL MONSTERS.

Katsura, a young associate of Mafune's, is injured. She reveals that the Mechagodzilla's controls have been *imbedded inside her own body!* The only way to stop Mechagodzilla now is by murdering Katsura herself!

While the battle rages on between the twin titans above ground, Katsura chooses to commit suicide to save the world. At this time, Mechagodzilla falters, and the real Godzilla takes the opportunity to dispose of him—hopefully forever—by burying the thing underground.

Abruptly the evil aliens flee in their starships. With Mechagodzilla inoperative, they have no defense: Titanosaur is still being bombarded with sonic beams and is virtually helpless. Yet, when the ever-alert Godzilla sees the flying saucers float upwards toward the night sky, he systematically blasts them down, one-by-one, with his radioactive death-ray.

Sensing the immediate danger is over, Godzilla then approaches the Titanosaur and, just for good measure, you understand, delivers some final punches to the thing's hide until the creature, near death, falls over a cliff and crashes into the raging sea.

Now it is time for Godzilla to rest. The danger has passed—for the time being.

END

Oh, oh, it's BIONIC MONSTER that Godzilla's up against this time.

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

TM & © Lucasfilm LTD (LFL) 1981

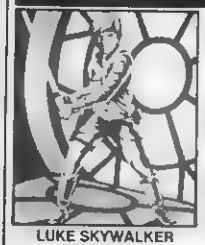
SCINTILLATING NEW PRODUCTS FROM THE MOVIE!

PRINCESS LEIA #26294—$5.50 | LUKE & THE TAUNTAUN #26293—$5.50 | YODA #26295—$5.50 | HAN SOLO #26296—$5.50

NEW! THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK FIGURINES

FIGURINES: Four foes of the fearsome Empire are subjects of Craft Master's detailed vinyl rotocast figurines. Figures are 5½ inches tall and are depicted in striking poses from the movie. You color them yourself in any style you like! Each set contains one figurine, four acrylic colors, paint brush and instructions. Ever try to paint a taun-taun? This one will stand still for you! Luke sits astride! Also: Yoda, Han Solo and Princess Leia!

GLOW-IN-THE-DARK PAINT SETS



LUKE SKYWALKER #26288—$2.95

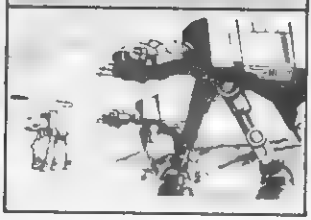
LEIA & HAN SOLO #26289—$2.95

DARTH VADER #26290—$2.95

YODA #26291—$2.95

Craft Master presents new Glow-in-the-dark paint-by-number sets with scenes and characters from The Empire Strikes Back! The paint keeps shining after the lights go out! Each set contains one 8"x10", 7 acrylic colors, one cup of glow-in-the-dark paint, a brush, and instructions!

BATTLE ON HOTH PAINT SET



BATTLE ON HOTH: Classic Hoth battle scene to paint by number! 10"x14" panel, 12 acrylic paint colors and brush in this set! #26292—$3.75

FANTASTIC PILLOW CASES & BED SHEETS

PILLOW CASE & BED SHEET: You will dream the dreams of a young Jedi when you sleep in these colorful, comfortable Star Wars bed sheets! Standard size pillowcase and twin flat bedsheet of soft cotanese fortrel playfully decorated with full color reproductions of Luke, Han Solo, Yoda, Darth, C-3PO, R2D2, Leia, Boba Fett & Chewie on a sky blue field!!

NEW!

PILLOW CASE #26286—$3.95

TWIN FLAT BEDSHEET #26287—$8.95

YODA HAND PUPPET

YODA HAND PUPPET: A beautifully sculpted and detailed puppet of the Jedi Master! Standing 8½" tall unassisted as figurine, or his head and arms can be manipulated! Order now! #26298—$13.95

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.

nine more claimed for SIRKI'S DOMAIN

Maria Palmer died on 6 September 1981 at the age of 57 She was featured as Rena's mother in 1964 s THE EVIL OF FRANKENSTEIN with Peter Cushing. Ms. Palmer also appeared in an episode of television's *One Step Beyond* entitled "The Secret" in 1959.

Character actress *Fern Barry Hill* died on 9 September 1981 at the age of 71. Ms Hill's last film appearance was in the 1981 horror film THE ATTIC with Ray (X - THE MAN WITH X-RAY EYES) Milland & Carrie (THE FURY) Snodgress.

Veteran character actor *Frank McHugh* died at the age of 83 on 11 September 1981. McHugh starred as Jim in THE MYSTERY OF THE WAX MUSEUM (1933) with Fay (KING KONG) Wray & Lionel Atwill. In 1934 he starred as Joe in RETURN OF THE TERROR with Mary Astor & J. Carrol (HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN) Naish. In 1949 McHugh was featured as Windy in MIGHTY JOE YOUNG. This film reunited the KING KONG creative team of Ernest B. Schoedsack, Merian C. Cooper & Willis O'Brien, with an assist from Ray Harryhausen. Terry Moore & Robert Armstrong costarred. In 1952 McHugh starred in an episode of television's early sci-fi series *Tales of Tommorrow* entitled "And a Little Child".

Character actress *Sara Haden* died on 15 September 1981 at the age of 82. Miss Haden was featured as Marie in MAD LOVE (1935) with Peter Lorre & Colin (FRANKENSTEIN) Clive. In 1946's THE SHE-WOLF OF LONDON she starred as the villainous Mrs. Winthrop who tries to convince her niece, played by June *(LOST IN SPACE)* Lockhart, that she has commited a series of hideous killings while transformed into a wolf-woman.

British character actor *Nigel Patrick* died at the age of 68 on 21 September 1981. Patrick appeared as Roger Cavendish in 1949's THE PERFECT WOMAN with Patricia Roc as a woman-android. The following year Patrick starred as Stephen Cameron in PANDORA & THE FLYING DUTCHMAN (1950) with James (JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH) Mason & Ava (ON THE BEACH) Gardner. This was a classic fantasy film about the legendary Flying Dutchman who was doomed to sail the 7 seas until he found a woman willing to die for him. Patrick also starred in 1971's TALES FROM THE CRYPT in the segment entitled "BLIND ALLEYS". He played William Rogers, the cruel administrator of a home for the blind whose injustices against the residents led to a ghastly fate. Patrick (A CLOCKWORK ORANGE) Magee costarred as the leader of the blind men.

Television writer & producer *Allan Balter* died on 23 September 1981 at the age of 56. Balter scripted 2 segments of television's *The Outer Limits*, "The Hundred Days of the Dragon" in 1963 & "The Mutant" in 1964. He was also the writer of "Attack of the Monster Plants" & "Wild Adventure" episodes of *Lost in Space* in 1965. Balter served as a writer for the *Mission Impossible* series in the late 1960s and was supervising producer for *The 6 Million Dollar Man* (1973-78). He also produced the 1980 *Captain America* telefilm and was supervising producer & writer for the new sci-fi series *The Powers of Matthew Star*.

American Indian character actor *Chief Dan George* died on 23 September 1981. He was 82. Chief Dan George, who was best known for his Academy Award nominated performance in LITTLE BIG MAN, starred in SHADOW OF THE HAWK in 1976 as Old Man Hawk. This tale of Indian magic & the supernatural costarred Jan-Michael (DAMNATION ALLEY) Vincent. In 1979 the Chief was featured as Sam Birdwater in the futuristic comedy AMERICATHON with John *(Hero at Large)* Ritter. He also appeared in an episode of television's *The Incredible Hulk* entitled "Kindred Spirits" in 1979.

Robert Montgomery died on 27 September 1981 at the age of 77. Montgomery terrified audiences in 1937's NIGHT MUST FALL as Danny, the psychopath who carries his wife's head around in a hat box. In 1941 Montgomery played Joe Pendleton in HERE COMES MR. JORDAN, the supernatural comedy about a boxer who dies before his time and is given a second chance at life in the body of a millionaire. Claude (THE INVISIBLE MAN) Rains also starred as Mr. Jordan. Warren Beatty starred in the role of Joe Pendleton in the 1978 remake HEAVEN CAN WAIT. Montgomery also starred as Prince Florizel in TROUBLE FOR TWO (1936), based on Robert Louis Stevenson's tale "The Suicide Club". During the 1950s Montgomery was the host of *Robert Montgomery Presents*, a television anthology series, which presented such tales as "The House of 7 Gables" with Gene Lockhart, "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" with Hurd (DORIAN GRAY) Hatfield, Bramwell (THE MUMMY) Fletcher and Robert Ellenstein as Quasimodo, and FAUST '57 with Bruce Gordon. Montgomery was the father of actress Elizabeth *(BEWITCHED)* Montgomery.

Academy Award winning actress *Gloria Grahame* died of cancer on 5 October 1981 at the age of 51. Miss Grahame costarred with Jimmy (HARVEY) Stewart in the fantasy classic IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (1946) as Violet Black. In 1971 she starred as Bethia in *Black Noon* (TVM-1971) with Ray Milland & Roy *(THE INVADERS)* Thinnes. Also in 1971 she appeared as Evelyn Harrison in the science fiction telefilm *ESCAPE*. In 1976's MANSION OF THE DOOMED she costarred as Nurse Katherine with Richard (VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA) Basehart. Her last film was 1981's The Nesting, a story of the supernatural which costars John Carradine. She played Florinda Costello. Miss Grahame also appeared in *The Outer Limits* episode entitled "The Guests" in 1964 and in an episode of Roald Dahl's *Tales of the Unexpected* entitled "Depart in Peace" in 1979.

SARA HADEN NILS ASTHER

STANLEY CLEMENTS SUCCUMBS

Stanley Clements, who began his career playing tough juveniles in films with the Dead End Kids & the Bowery Boys, died at the age of 55 on 16 October 1981. Clements appeared in GHOST ON THE LOOSE (1943), BOWERY TO BAGDAD (1955), HOLD THAT HYPNOTIST (1957), SPOOK CHASERS (1957) & UP IN SMOKE (1957) as Duke. He also appeared in THE ROCKET MAN (1953) as Bob with Anne (FORBIDDEN PLANET) Francis & John (REVENGE OF THE CREATURE) Agar. In 1967 Clements was featured in PANIC IN THE CITY, the story of an atomic bomb plot against the city of Los Angeles. Nehemiah (THE POWER) Persoff & Howard Duff starred. Also in 1967 Clements appeared in an episode of television's *The Girl from U.N.C.L.E.*

PATSY KELLY PASSES AT 71

Actress-comedienne Patsy Kelly died on the 24 September 1981 at the age of 71. Miss Kelly, whose film career lasted over half a century, appeared with Thelma (7 FOOTPRINTS TO SATAN) Todd in a Hal Roach short entitled "The Tin Man" (1935), the tale of a mad scientist & a woman-hating robot. She costarred with Bela Lugosi, Lionel Atwill & the Ritz Brothers as Kitty in the 1939 version of the horror-comedy The Gorilla. She appeared as Emily, the maid, in the supernatural comedy TOPPER RETURNS in 1941, with Roland Young in the title role of Cosmo Topper and the late Joan Blondell as a bothersome ghost. In 1966 Miss Kelly played Myrtle Forbush in THE GHOST IN THE INVISIBLE BIKINI with Boris Karloff & Quinn O'Hara. In 1968 William Castle produced and Roman Polanski directed the horror classic ROSEMARY'S BABY with Miss Kelly in the role of Laura-Louise. Mia Farrow, Ruth Gordon & Sidney (DELUGE) Blackmer also starred. She also appeared as Mrs. Schmauss in Walt Disney's FREAKY FRIDAY in 1977. On television Miss Kelly enlivened in episodes of *Alfred Hitchcock Presents*, *Wild Wild West* & *The Man from U.N.C.L.E.*

MAN IN HALF MOON STREET DEPARTS

Nils Asther, the Swedish star of silents who went on to play roles in horror films, died in Stockholm at the age of 84 on 13 October 1981. Asther costarred with Lon Chaney Sr. & Loretta Young in LAUGH, CLOWN, LAUGH in 1928. He played Count Luigi Ravelli in 1930 Asther appeared in THE SEA BAT with Boris Karloff. In 1934's THE LOVE CAPTIVE with Gloria (THE INVISIBLE MAN) Stuart he played Dr. Alexis Cellender. As Angor Singh in THE NIGHT MONSTER (1942) Asther costarred with Bela Lugosi, Lionel Atwill & Frank (KING KONG) Reicher. In the 1944 film BLUEBEARD Asther played Insp. Lefevre. John Carradine starred in the title role. The same year Asther starred as THE MAN IN HALF MOON STREET. As Dr. Julian Karell, he attempted to find the secret of rejuvenation and eternal life. This film was remade by Hammer in 1959 as THE MAN WHO COULD CHEAT DEATH with Anton Diffring & Christopher Lee. In 1948 Asther starred in his last American film, THE FEATHERED SERPENT, with Roland Winters as Charlie Chan.

60 "B" PIX now "u" "c" "m"!

by Larry Larson

BEE PIX.

Those sometimes horrible, often awful second features we are all too familiar with. Many times the lowly "B" pic is the third feature at a drive-in or a Saturday afternoon atrocity or a middle-of-the-night throwaway.

But the Bee Pix in this article are not all low grade productions; in fact, many of them are memorable movies, some even classics.

We're talking about Bee Pix that begin with the letter B!

For the first of our 60 same-letter screen-pix we turn back the clock to 1932 when, a year after Karloff strangled Edward Van Sloan in FRANKENSTEIN, they were back in business together in a movie of menace where Van Sloan was the one in makeup in BEHIND THE MASK.

Next was an incredible movie made in 1934 named THE BLACK CAT. This unforgettable film pitted Karloff against Lugosi, had little to do with Poe's original story but the plot was no less bizarre. Karloff was superb as the guru of a devil-worshipping cult situated in a modernistic house—the same classic Frank Lloyd Wright structure that many years later served as THE HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL . . . and is located but a minute away up the street from the editor's Ackermuseum in Horrorwood, Karloffornia.

The 3d film was THE BLACK ROOM, released in 1935. This underrated little thriller had Karloff

"Hollow! I'm THE BEAST FROM HOLLOW MOUNTAIN. Have you seen my animator Willis O'Brien?"

The hero says: "This means Gorilla Warfare!"

The choke's on him in BLOOD OF DRACULA.

"BEFORE I HANG," Boris Karloff tells Edward Van Sloan, "I hope I get the hang of playing in these scary pictures!"

THE BEAST WITH 5 FINGERS bursts thru the coffin lid and startles Peter Lorre, Andrea King & Robert Alda.

playing a dual role as his own twin brother. It was an outstanding performance by Karloff, set in atmospehric sets with good acting on everyone's part.

#4 is the classic BRIDE OF FRANKENSTEIN, also released in 1935. By now most of us are familliar with the plot where Mary Shelley (Elsa Lanchester) reveals that there is more to the story. And as the camera draws back, we are brought back to the windmill, still ablaze, and part 2 of the sensational saga picks up.

5 is another Karloff special known as BEFORE I HANG (1940). This was a typical mad scientist film but an interesting diversion.

Another Karloffilm, and #6 in our line-up, is BLACK FRIDAY (1940). This was a gangster film . . . with a twist! Karloff transplants a criminal's brain into the skull of a kindly college professor. Some interesting things follow! Bela Lugosi had a minor role in this one as another gang member.

THE BLACK CAT (1941) is the 7th movie on our list. This was not a remake of the original and was more of a comedy, with Basil Rathbone & Bela Lugosi in the cast.

In 1942 it was possible that THE BOOGIE MAN WILL GET YOU. This was an awful lot like ARSENIC & OLD LACE and starred Karloff & Peter Lorre.

#9 is another classic. Made in 1945, it starred Karloff & Lugosi and was based on Robert Louis Stevenson's novel THE BODY SNATCHER. Karloff had the lead role as a grave-robber who would go to any lengths to supply the doctor (Henry Daniell) with bodies for his experiments. The ending still brings chills!

10th on this list is THE BEAST WITH 5 FINGERS which allowed Peter Lorre a chance to do a bravo performance as the tormented & psychopathic yet pathetic librarian to a concert pianist. He cuts the hand from the corpse and imagines it is crawling around the house! There are several chilling scenes where the hand crawls along the desk and on bookshelves. Also a good finish.

Films 11 thru 20 vary greatly. #11, for example, is the classic French film BEAUTY & THE BEAST (1946). One of the finest films of all time in French or English. It boasted atmospheric sets & excellent makeup. Some of the scenes were downright eerie!

12th is another minor classic called BEDLAM (1946) in which Karloff plays the head of an insane asylum. Very good drama with some chills for good measure. (See FM 131 for filmbook.)

Unlucky 13 was just that, a film called THE BRUTE MAN (1946) starring Rondo Hatton. He played a lunatic who goes on a murdering rampage.

The 14th film is a milestone of sorts, released in 1952. It was the first major production to enjoy international release in a new process called 3-D, or stereovision. BWANA DEVIL was the name, and today it is more of a novelty item than any-

Karloff & Chaney, a double dose of diablerie in THE BLACK CASTLE.

thing else. Basically the plot dealt with African lions.

THE BLACK CASTLE is the 15th movie for your review. Also released in 1952 this gothic melodrama featured Karloff & Chaney Jr. in supporting roles. More of a mystery than anything else.

Ray Harryhausen's BEAST FROM 20,000 FATHOMS came to us in 1953. Altho a low-budget flick it boasted some incredible special effects, especially the ending at the amusement park. (See **FM**'s BF 107, 123 for coverage.)

BEAST OF HOLLOW MOUNTAIN (1956) was less successful but is of special interest as Willis O'Brien had his hand in the animation of the allosaurus. For the newer readers, O'Brien was the genius behind KING KONG (1933) & MIGHTY JOE YOUNG. (See filmbook on latter in **FM**s 151 & 152.)

The 18th entry is THE BLACK SLEEP, an unusual horror film unleased in 1956. It featured a cast that would cheer any horror fan's black heart, including Lon Chaney, Jr., Bela Lugosi, Basil Rathbone, Tor Johnson, Akim Tamiroff & John Carradine! (See **FM**s 79, 90, 137.)

Victor Maddern flowers attention on lovely Barbara Shelley. (Any relation to Mary?)

One of the mutant monstrosities that haunted THE BLACK SLEEP.

Lugosi in the second BLACK CAT. 7 lives to go!

Giant insects invaded in the next film, known as BEGINNING OF THE END (1957). This Bert Gordon production had huge grasshoppers attacking Chicago.

THE BLACK SCORPION (1957) is the 20th offering. This one starred supersize scorpions running amok in Mexico. Effex by O'Brien.

TEN MORE BEES ...

For the vampire lovers, film #21 was a blood type B movie about a girl hypnotized into belief she's one of the undead. And the name of the 1957 flick? BLOOD OF DRACULA.

THE BLOB oozed at us in 1958 and young Steven McQueen helped rid the world of this gelatinous menace.

This was followed by another vampire film titled BLOOD OF THE VAMPIRE (1958). It was vastly superior to movie #21 yet lacked the horror & suspense of HORROR OF DRACULA.

Another alien came to us in the 24th film, called THE BRAIN FROM PLANET AROUS (1958). John Agar was taken over by the cerebral being and it nearly ended the world as we knew it!

BRIDE & THE BEAST (1958) was a B-movie in every sense of the word. This was a retelling of the Beauty & the Beast fairy tale, set in Africa where an ape falls for an explorer's wife and tries to soothe her jungled nerves.

#26 is a Roger Corman film made in 1959, the so-called Beatnik Era. BUCKET OF BLOOD was full of the "hip" people of that time in this, another version of the mad sculptor.

Vincent Price came to us in his first "B" film called THE BAT (1959), which had less to do with bats & vampires than cops & corpses.

BATTLE IN OUTER SPACE (1960) was the Japanese entry for the Bs. The title sums it up.

Robert Clarke (of HIDEOUS SUN DEMON fame) took a trip BEYOND THE TIME BARRIER in 1960 and saw what life was like in the 21st century. He didn't like it!

#30 brings us back to the vampires with BRIDES OF DRACULA (1960). This was one of the better Hammer Films entries of a new theme based on the vampire legend.

* * * * *

We stand now at the halfway mark.

Nextime:

Words & pix about:

BLOOD & ROSES ...

BLACK SUNDAY ... BLACK SABBATH ... BURNT OFFERINGS ...

BATTLE BENEATH THE EARTH ... BATTLE BEYOND THE SUN ... BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES ...

BERSERK ... BLOOD OF FU MANCHU ... BLOOD-SPATTERED BRIDE ... BRIDES OF DRACULA ...

BEAST OF THE YELLOW NIGHT ...

BATTLESTAR GALACTICA ...

—30 more malevolent & monstrous movies in all!

Be there!

MOONRAKER TRADING CARDS AND STICKERS

From the 007 outer space epic! Backs of cards form two jigsaw puzzles! Assortment comes in the original wrapper!
Set of 99 Trading Cards #26320 $12.95
Assortment of 40 Cards #26321 $4.95

Stickers featuring Bond, Holly, Jaws, the Moonraker, action scenes and more!
22 Stickers #26322 $3.95

SUPERMAN The MOVIE TRADING CARDS AND STICKERS

Backs of cards feature movie facts and jigsaw puzzle of the Man of Steel! Assortment comes in the original wrapper!
Set 77 Trading Cards #26331 $13.95
Assortment of 40 Cards #26332 $5.95

Brilliant full-color stickers from the sensational film! Superman, Lois, others!
12 Stickers #26333 $2.95

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS TRADING CARDS AND STICKERS

The backs of 22 cards feature fascinating facts about the trend-setting science fiction spectacular...the rest can be combined to form a breathtaking scene from the movie!
Set of 66 Trading Cards #26323 $10.95

Colorful stickers depicting exciting UFO scenes from the science fiction thriller!
11 Stickers #26324 $2.95

SUPERMAN TWO TRADING CARDS AND STICKERS

Second thrilling series! Backs of cards have movie facts and large action scene! Assortment comes in original wrapper!
Set of 77 Trading Cards #26334 $13.95
Assortment of 40 Cards #26335 $5.95

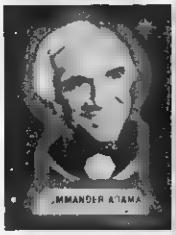
Follow-up series of exciting stickers! Phantom Zone criminals, action scenes!
16 Stickers #26336 $3.95

ALIEN TRADING CARDS AND STICKERS

Backs of cards feature two different jigsaw puzzles, plus summary of movie! Assortment comes in original wrapper!
Set of 84 Trading Cards #26325 $11.95
Assortment of 40 Cards #26326 $4.95

Dazzling stickers featuring the leading characters, the outer space scenes, more!
22 Stickers #26327 $3.95

Battlestar GALACTICA TRADING CARDS AND STICKERS



Backs of cards feature character profiles and two different jigsaw puzzles! Assortment comes in the original wrapper!
Set of 132 Trading Cards #26337 $16.95
Assortment of 40 Cards #26338 $5.95

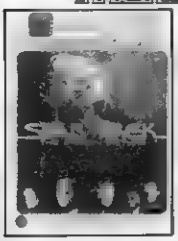
Heroes and villains from the TV series on colorful stickers! Starbuck, others!
22 Stickers #26339 $3.95

THE HULK TRADING CARDS AND STICKERS

Backs of cards form four different jigsaw puzzles! Also, exciting TV facts! Assortment comes in the original wrapper!
Set of 88 Trading Cards #26328 $13.95
Assortment of 40 Cards #26329 $5.95

Stunning color stickers of TV's green-skinned goliath and alter ego Dr. Banner!
22 Stickers #26330 $3.95

STAR TREK TRADING CARDS AND STICKERS



Backs of cards feature story summaries, plus jigsaw puzzles of Enterprise crew! Assortment comes in original wrapper!
Set of 88 Trading Cards #26340 $13.95
Assortment of 40 Cards #26341 $5.95

Exciting stickers featuring Kirk, Spock, McCoy, Scotty, and all your other favorites!

REST IN PEACE
or is it pieces?

The bride died and dried out, waiting in the gloom for her groom.

NO SEX.
BLOOD.
SWEARING.

These were the first words from the writer & director of REST IN PEACE for the readers of FAMOUS MONSTERS.

"The filmonster fans can rest easy," Tom McLoughlin continued, "that this is a picture they can see without parental criticism, without gallons of gore & beheading galore. My film is in the genre of the fright fantasies of the 40s."

THE ACTION

Raymar the noted psychic is dead.

The coroner is called to his apartment.

An incredible sight greets the medic's eyes.

The interior of the apartment looks like a cyclone hit it.

Or a poltergeist went mad inside.

Or there was an invisible explosion that left no burn marks.

Furniture is topsy turvy...dishes smashed... pots & pans & knives & forks & spoons are stuck high on the wall, rammed into the plaster as by a giant's hand.

The coroner is confused.

The police perplexed.

The corpse seems vexed: a hugh blue-white electric spark suddenly crackles from one of its upraised dead hands and sizzles into the ceiling!

MEANWHILE...

Elsewhere in the city, an initiation is about to take place. Student Julie is to spend some eerie hours in a local mausoleum. ("In fact," Tom told FM, "the title of the picture was to have been MAUSOLEUM till we learned the name had already been appropriated for the film in which Bobbie Bresee makes her motion picture debut.")

Shortly before Julie begins her nocturnal vigil in the realm of the dead, the corpse of Raymar is laid to rest in the same location.

FRANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

A couple of Julie's classmates decide to sneak up on her in the mausoleum and give her a good scare by making themselves up as ghouls. But it's the girls--along with Julie--who get a night fright that has them white with terror and, Tom predicts, will horrify you too.

And Tom's pretty good at prophecy.

He should be--he was the mutant bear in PROPHECY!

(You'll find a lot about Tom in a back issue of FM that came out around the time of the picture in 1978. It's worth looking up!)

And did you see Disney's space epic THE BLACK HOLE? Then you saw Tom the Actor as Capt. Star. He also was in charge of manipulating the robots in that picture!

THE BATTLE OF BIO-ENERGY

The film climaxes with all *heck* breaking loose. (Remember, there are no swear words in this picture.)

Side by side, half mummified, these corpses have the crypt defied.

The Bride of Dank-in-Pine frightens a school girl to death?

Two "apparitions" haunt the Halls of the Dead in this advance peek at REST IN PEACE.

The reason the corpse is risin' you'll find is most surprisin'.

Raymar rises from the dead.

He focuses his psychic energy on the surrounding crypts and as the repositories burst open, coffins fly forth like torpedoes and crash to the floor, splitting open and spewing out the dessicated dead. The corpse of--

A bride.
A black.
A child.
A Mexican.
A war veteran.

Pandemonium breaks loose in the Hall of the Dead as Raymar directs his bio-energy into the corpses in a climax crackling with electricity.

THE RETURN OF BATMAN

What has Batman to do with REST IN PEACE?

Well, considering this is a plot (a cemetery plot) about a bunch of people who kick the casket and go west, who is the ideal actor to play a principal part in the grave undertakings?

Right--Adam "Batman" West! Adam West stars in the picture.

FM congratulates TOM McLOUGHLIN on his feat--bringing in an $80,000 picture on a 28-day shooting schedule--and wishes him luck when voting time rolls round for the Best Low Budget Film as selected by the Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy & Horror Films.

LO, GHOUL BOY MAKES GOOD!

THE ROLL OF HONOR
ALUMNI OF FAMOUS MONSTERS WHO HAVE GRADUATED FROM FANS INTO PROFESSIONALS
TOM McLOUGHLIN

David Allen	John Landis
Jon Berg	Brad Linaweaver
Joe Blasko	George Lucas
Charlene Brinke	Bill Mallone
Brooks Bros.	Mark McGee
Bob Burns	Mike Minor
Mario Chiodo	Dennis Muren (Oscar!)
Paul Clemens	Randy Palmer
Ron Cobb	Terri Pinckard
Rich Correll	Chris Robinson
Luigi Cozzi	Jean-Claude Romer
Jim Danforth	Tom Scherman
David DelValle	Skotak Bros.
John Dods	Steven Spielberg
John Eppolito	Phil Tippet
Don Glut	Susan Turner
Bill Hedges	Bill Warren
Stephen King	Dale Winogura

Jim Wynorski

Do YOU qualify? If so, let us know!

END

SON OF WING THINGS

you flew for it

by Deborah B. Painter

LAST ISSUE you flew to your pens, pencils, crayolas, typewriters & word processors to tell us the "Things with Wings" article had you soaring but what about the Birds & the Bees, the Wasps & the Grasshoppers, the Harryhausen Creations & the Airborne Animations of Danforth? So we sent forth the word to our Bird & Bee expert, Deborah Painter, and heeere's Debby with another delightful display of her knowledge about.... *Things with Wings!*

* * * * *

Two often overlooked prehistoric animals in the 1933 movie masterpiece KING KONG are the giant vultures (Teratornis) that have Bruce Cabot discovered feeding on the carcass of the Tyrannosaurus which Kong had earlier killed. These great birds lived in North America a scant million years ago.

Pterodactyls were seen again in THE LAND UNKNOWN (1957) and again in Ray Harryhausen's ONE MILLION YEARS B.C. (1966). In this film an animated Pteranodon carried on the tradition of picking up pretty girls in its talons and had to battle an enormous Rhamphorynchus for the possession of Raquel Welch. Of course, the wet blanket of reality tells us that the hollow bones of the flying reptiles would surely break if the creatures tried to pick up such heavy loads. Nevertheless, a Pteranodon tried the same stunt with a young boy in THE VALLEY OF GWANGI (1969) and was shot down by cowboys.

when danforth ruled

WHEN DINOSAURS RULED THE EARTH (1970) also featured an outsized Rhamphorynchus menacing a cavemen. The animal's wings flapped in a wonderfully fluid manner because of a filming process used by animator Jim Danforth. The wings were blurred for about 80% of the shots. Such extra attention to realistic move-

MOTHRA raises a flap over Tokyo.

ment, however, brings costs sky high and thus is seldom used.

The aforementioned Pterodactyls were generally lifelike but such could not be said of RODAN (1957). The 2 winged monsters which rattled Japan with sonic booms produced by their super speeds were identified as Pteranodons. They in fact bore very little resemblance to the real thing but were properly monstrous. They were also filmed at high camera speeds, which imparted bulk to their movements.

Other false Pterodactyls were the intelligent, evil Mahars in Amicus Film's AT THE EARTH'S CORE (1976). The costumes of the imaginary monsters were effective enough but poorly handled flying scenes made the reptilian rulers laughable instead of scary.

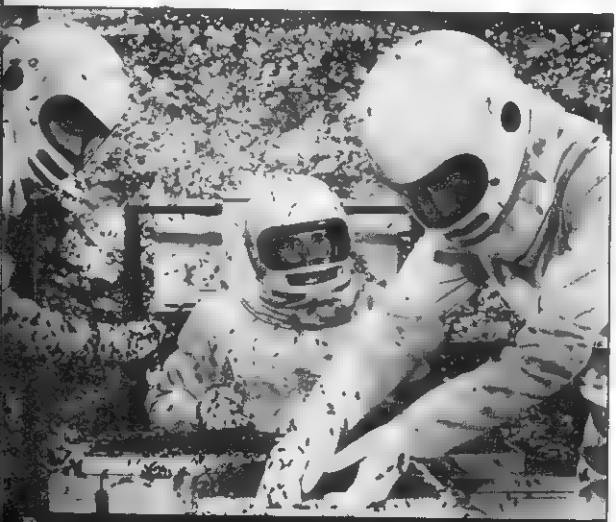
nemo nonplussed

Phorhoracos, a giant flightless bird of ages past, made a surprise appearance in THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND (1961) with no satisfactory explanation offered for its presence there. Captain Nemo was using the isle as a hiding place for his crippled submarine and was conducting experiments aimed at increasing the size of animals

That bird was no birdbrain—look who it's flying off with: Raquel Welch in ONE MILLION YEARS B.C.

In 1936 Republic Studios discovered these batmen living in DARKEST AFRICA.

In a rare behind-the-scenes shot we show you how effects are accomplished with realistic miniatures.



Bees wax enthusiastic over their opportunity to sting Big Names like Henry Fonda (ctr.) in THE SWARM.

in an effort to increase the world's food supply. He had raised and released giant honeybees, big as horses, which sealed the 2 lovers Beth Rogan & Gary Merrill in an enormous honeycomb.

beepix

Swarms of "specially bred bees" prone to attack humans were unleashed by the villain in THE DEADLY BEES (1967), based on HFHeard's novel "A Taste for Honey."

THE SWARM (1978) flew on the waves of public interest in the so-called "killer bees," small, aggressive bees which are slowly moving northward from South America. The bees in this rather ridiculous film caused all manner of mayhem, including a nuclear power plant accident.

A relative of the bee, the wasp has enjoyed its own career in films. A hawk-sized wasp menaced Sinbad's crew in SINBAD & THE EYE OF THE TIGER (1977). Wasps of a similar size were created as a result of eating THE FOOD OF THE GODS (1976) and flew forth to build giant nests and fatally sting those who bothered them.

An even more gigantic wasp was THE MONSTER FROM GREEN HELL (1957). This one was a big as an elephant!

of myths & moths

1957 was a good year for giant flying insects. Audiences watched the exploits of a jet-sized praying mantis in THE DEADLY MANTIS and were frightened by Bert I. Gordon's THE BEGINNING OF THE END, which featured a plague of giant grasshoppers. As if that was not bad enough, they were dangerously radioactive as well!

Moths are generally thought of as gentle & beautiful and such was the Giant Lunar Moth which gave the good Dr. Doolittle a ride on its back to the Moon on one of its never-ending journeys to & from our shining sattellite. But a relative of this insect, MOTHRA, was considerably less amiable. She was, however, very attached to 2 tiny priestesses with whom she dwelled on a small island. When the little ladies were kidnapped by a showbiz impresario for exploitation back in Tokyo, Mothra, still a giant caterpillar, set forth to avenge them. She swam to the city and spun her cocoon on Tokyo Tower. The creature later emerged as a giant moth and after causing much destruction restored the priestesses to their home.

3 heads are better than one

From giant winged insects it is not a huge step to alien creatures with wings and these have been many & varied. One of the most bizarre is GHIDRAH THE THREE-HEADED MONSTER (1965).

An enormous meteor crashed in Japan, soon revealing itself as a hatching egg. The egg spewed forth a fireball which became Ghidrah, a titanic

GHIDRAH THE THREE-HEADED MONSTER goes into action against Godzilla, Mothra & Rodan. Ghidrah's intent is to DESTROY ALL MONSTERS.

Buster Crabbe battles Hawkmen in exciting episode of space serial of the 30s, FLASH GORDON.

Bela, you should have known batter than to monkey with that critter! (THE DEVIL BAT).

bat-winged monster with a reptilian body and 3 wicked heads on long necks. It used its Godzilla-like fiery breath to wreak destruction and was at last met by its match—the combined forces of all the monsters of Earth. Mothra, Godzilla & Rodan drove the creature away but it soon returned in MONSTER ZERO (1965) as the servant of evil aliens bent on conquering Earth. Ghidrah was a constant thorn in Godzilla's side, returning to battle him in DESTROY ALL MONSTERS (1968) and again in GODZILLA VS. GIGAN (1972).

gaos spells chaos

Toho International's Japanese competitor, Daiei Films, also offered a flying monster, Gaos. This Pterodactyl-like creature is as big as a passenger jet and emits a laser beam from its mouth. Gaos was the foe of Gamera, Daiei's answer to Godzilla, in RETURN OF THE GIANT MONSTERS (1967).

Gamera, tho supposedly prehistoric, is more alien than Ghidrah, in the opinion of this author. A huge, fanged turtle, he propels himself thru space by means of fire jets emitted when he withdraws his head & climbs into his shell. Technically he cannot be considered a winged monster tho he is capable of flight.

sandy claws

The year 1957 gave us THE GIANT CLAW, which dealt with a huge bird from outer space. This vulture-like monster, at once hideous & ludicrous, landed in Canada and cut a path of destruction south to New York City. There it built a nest atop the Empire State Building, a structure strangely attractive to monsters. Of course the invader met its end in the final reel.

raiders of the lost hawk

Universal Pictures released its famous serial, FLASH GORDON, in 1936, and among the peoples of the planet Mongo where Dr. Zarkov's ship landed were the strange Hawkmen. These bird-winged humanoids were dressed in barbaric costumes and wore metal helmets decorated with bird beaks. Their headquarters was the floating Sky City, ruled by the rotund King Vultan. At first indifferent to the plight of Flash, Dale Arden & Dr. Zarkov, Vultan later joined them in hopes of conquering the evil emperor Ming.

bats, bela & beatty

Let us return to Earth for a look at the winged vertebrate animals now living here. Among the mammals, only the bat can fly, and a very large vampire bat was the monster in THE DEVIL BAT (1941). Bela Lugosi, in his recurrent role as a mad doctor, created & unleashed this menace of the night to drain the blood of his enemies.

Of course, normal-sized bats are a staple of vampire films of all countries.

One old serial even featured winged versions of ourselves. This was DARKEST AFRICA. Also called BAT MEN OF AFRICA, this 1936 Republic serial starred circus showman Clyde Beatty and told the story of a safari into the gorilla, a colony of Europeans and the weird Bat Men, men born with wings. They flew by means of life-sized dummies suspended by invisible piano wire, creating a more realistic effect than did the wire-supported Hawkmen miniatures in FLASH GORDON.

watch (out for) the birdies!

Nearly all the winged things in this article were based upon real animals which the filmakers either expanded to enormous size and/or in some other way modified for horrific effect. But such changes were unnecessary for the horror generated by THE BIRDS (1963), one of Alfred Hitchcock's most popular films. Ordinary pigeons, sparrows, crows & gulls inexplicably turned on humans in order to rout us from Bodega Bay in northern California. By the end of the picture the birds succeeded in this and allowed the few survivors to drive away. This picture offered a remarkable reversal of the usual ending of a film of this sort: the birds took over, the humans were defeated and things were quiet once more!

This article is, of course, only a survey of Winged Things in the Cinema, a book would be needed to describe all the flying monsters that ever appeared on film. We can be assured that new movies will continue to bring us more of these flapping, buzzing & soaring horrors.

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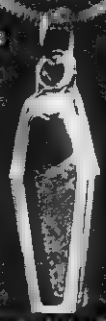

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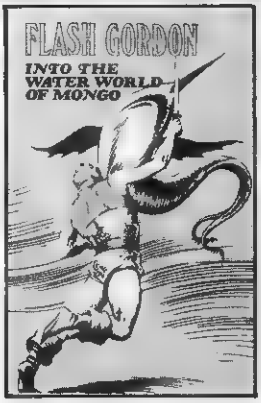

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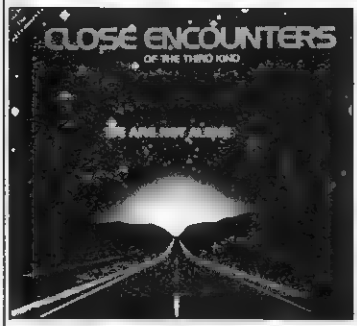

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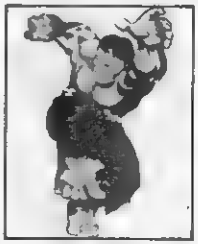

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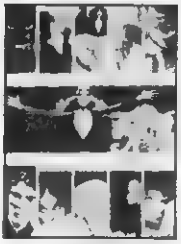

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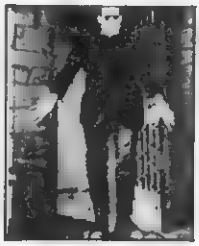

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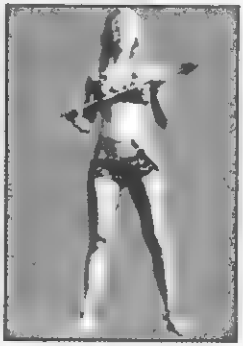

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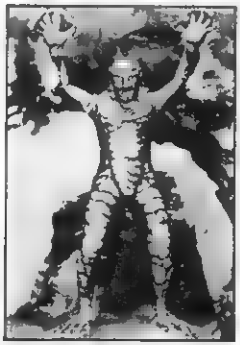

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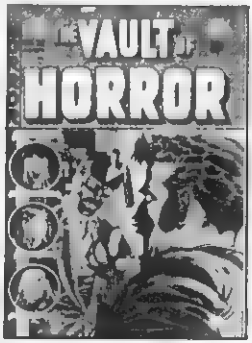

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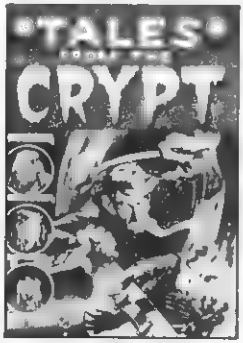

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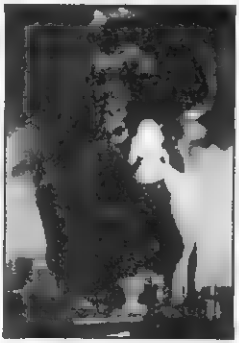

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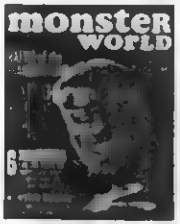

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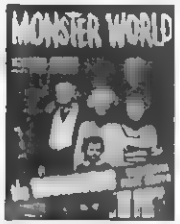

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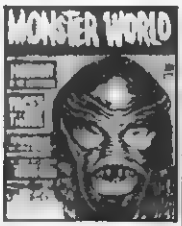

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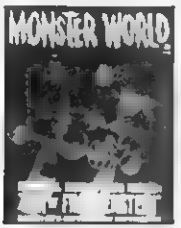

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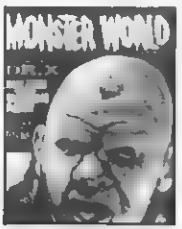

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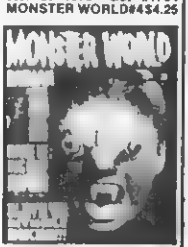

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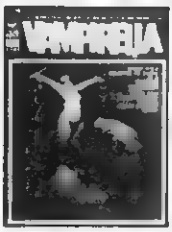

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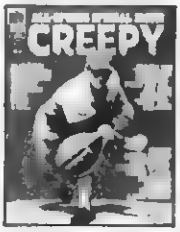

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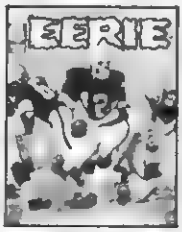

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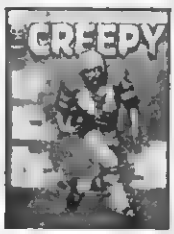

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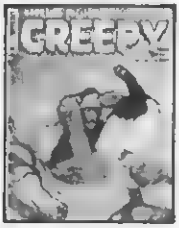

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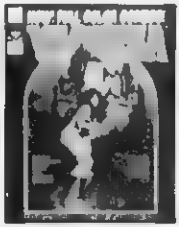

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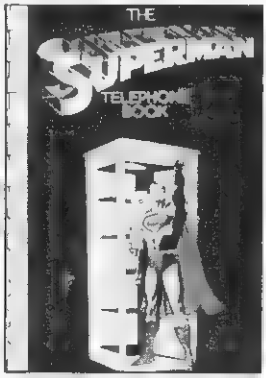

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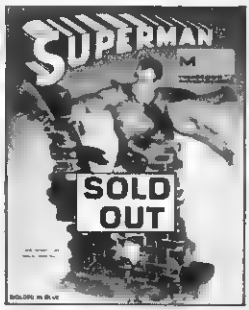

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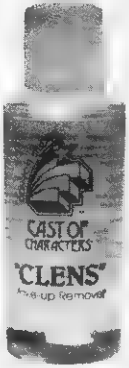

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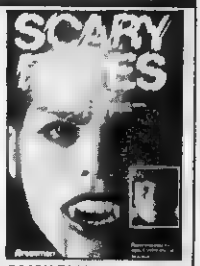

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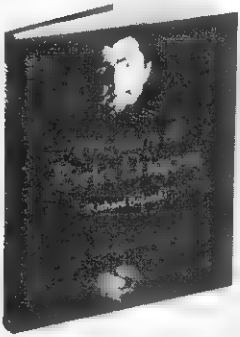

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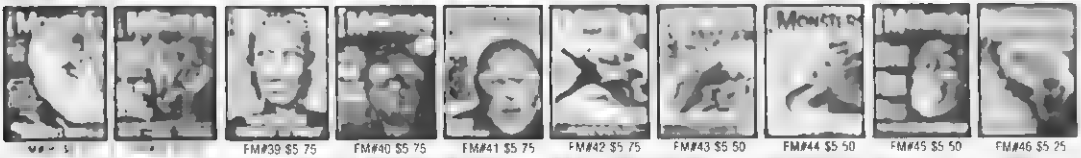

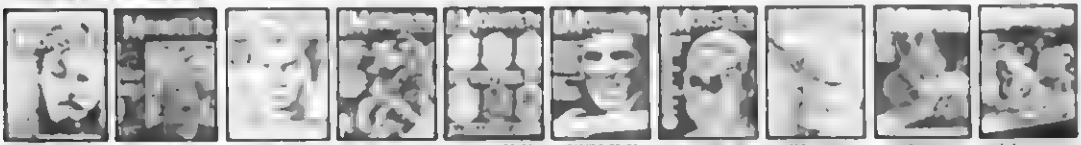

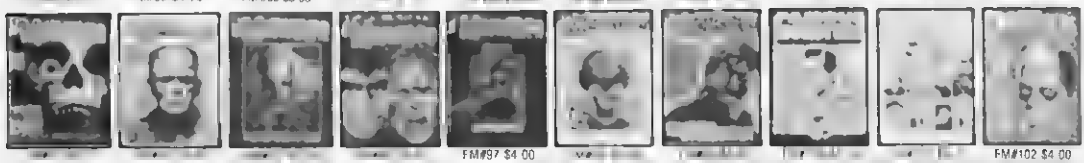

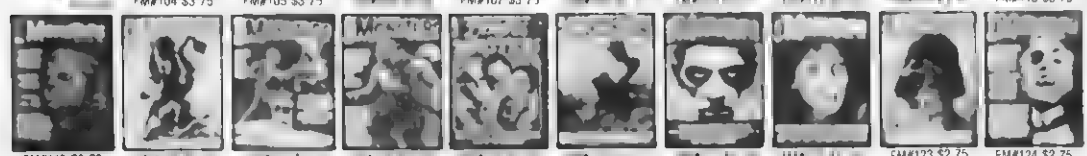

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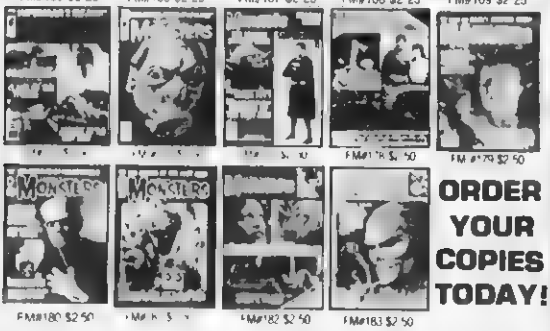

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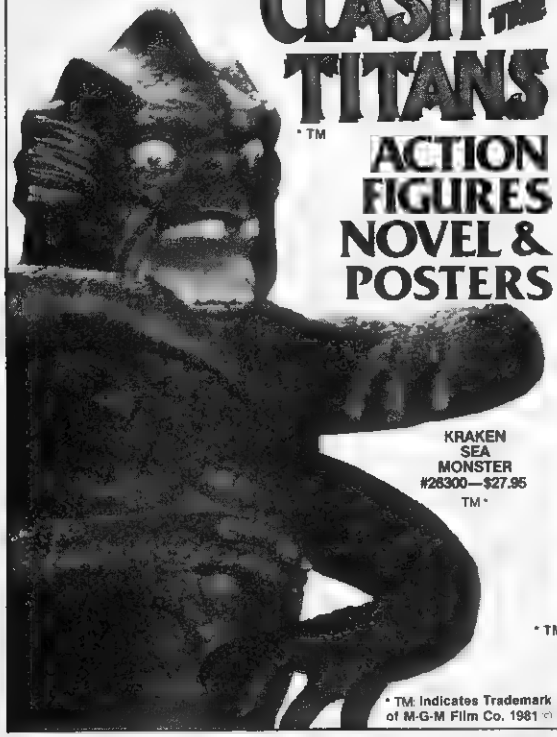

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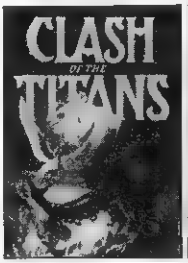

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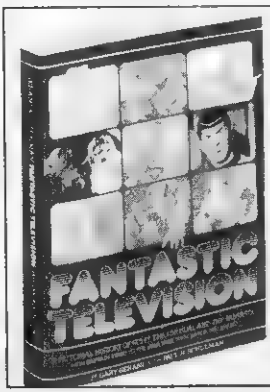

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RARE TREATS

see them now!

No waiting
No delay
See these Nifty Pix
Today

The Whatzit from the Bleak Lagoon emerges in a 1988 telepic made by the old AIP terrorvision division.

What a task! The Face Behind the Mask belongs to Maila (Vampira) Nurmi. From Bert I. Gordon's THE MAGIC SWORD.

From the Dr. Who 2-part serial "The Powerful Enemy", Vicki (Maureen O'Brien) looks up to Koquillion.

Cheryl (Rainbeaux) Smith as Lila Lee in THE LEGENDARY CURSE OF LEMORA (1975).

The Famous Spanish Lycanthope Paul Naschy in THE MARK OF THE WEREWOLF the first loup garou film about Waldemar Daninsky. Makup by Jose Luis Ruiz.

END

GRAVEYARD EXAMINER

CREATURE FEATURES

FINAL

DEAD-LETTER EDITION

EDITOR, JEFF ROVIN

SHOCKRONYMS

We just happen to have another tip-top (or "rip-top" as Larry Talbot would say...) selection sent to us by Gregg Leibert of Lafayette, Indiana. And now Gregg's incredible effort, one which is as original as it is informative:

Below	To	Person's	Opposition	Troubled	Act,
Earth,	Halt	Life,	From	Heston's	Producing
Numerous	Every	Although		Energetic	Earth's
Enemy		None			Silence
Apes		Envisioned			
Tried		The			
Hard					

EVOLUTION

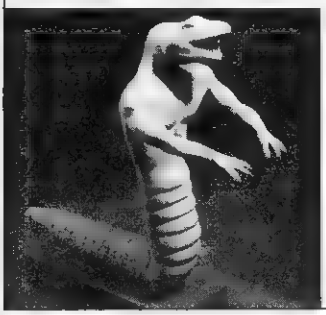
Answer the rather obscure questions with one four letter word each. Each succeeding word is the same as the one which came before it, except that one letter has been changed. For example, we'll start you with two:

Skeletal component: bone
Mr. Ranger: lone
Perry's employee:
Late director:
Threat puncher:
Igor survived it:
Caine lost it:
Magician's rod:

He was Robin:
Star doings:
Vulcan trademark:
Flies to Renfield:
West and Lugosi:
Supe bends 'em:
Ymir battleground:
What the witch did:

TWO EXAMINERS OF DISTINCTION!

To begin with, we'd like to thank Mike Pallotta of Toronto for his comprehensive list of Haunted Flix. Many of you responded to our request for a catalogue of these films, but Mike had the most. Unfortunately, we don't have the room to run what Mike sent us! We'll try to do so in a future issue. Till then, congratulations to Mike and thanks to the rest of you!



A year or so ago--or was it a century? Things move swiftly in the world of the undead--we ran a photo showing the stop motion dinosaur of Roy Thurston, a young dinomator from Calgary. Roy has continued his work and sends us the results: a Snake Warrior, who will "explode from a sand dune and terrorize passers-by," as Roy explains it, in an upcoming science fiction epic. Are you listening, Dino de Laurentiis? Here's an FM discovery who might be handy to have around when you put DUNE before the cameras!

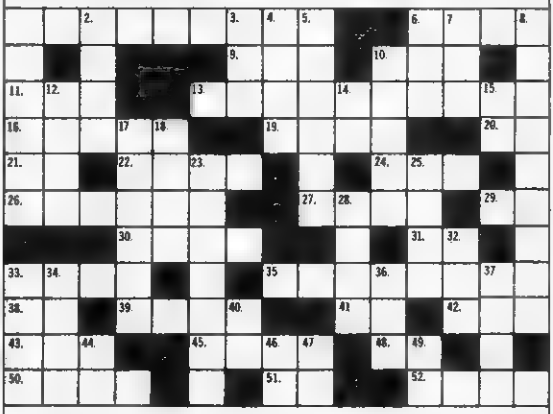
ANSWERS

bone, lone, lane, lane, lane, hand, hand, rand, ears, ears, eats, bats, bats, bats, bats

This is one of the most-requested features of GE, yet one we've been neglecting because it takes up so much room--space we've been using to give you the other GE columns, news items, and so forth.

Well, it's time to bite the bullet (silver, natch!). We've come up with a Crossweird Puzzle that's at once the trickiest and toughest you've ever seen in FM. What's more, we're going to try to give you one every month. That is, if you want it. Here's how to let us know: write "yes" or "no" on the back of a postcard to cast your vote. "Yes" means you want one very month; "no" means do away with the Crossweirds.

Meantime, here's the latest! Answer next issue (that's to make sure you show up, fellow fiends!)



ACROSS

1. Farmer turned freedom fighter
6. Godzilla foe
9. SINBAD AND THE ____ OF THE TIGER
10. Frequent Corman subject
11. Kirk's role in TWENTY THOUSAND LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA
13. First two words in a Harryhausen title
16. The Gillman's Lagoon
19. Korda made him a dog
20. Bond nemesis
21. Initials of Conan actor
22. Hercules slew one
24. Lucas initials
26. The devil's son
27. Weena's people
29. Fx genius Mr. Whitlock, to intimates
30. The Impaler
31. Initials of famous Irish fantasy author Lord Dunsany
33. Martha Kent to Jonathan
35. Famous Binder robot
38. Initials of late fx artist (FORBIDDEN PLANET and others)
39. Where Harryhausen's cyclops roasted the sailor
41. Egyptian deity
42. One of the comedians who went into Orbit
43. He did it before Laughton, Quinn, and Hopkins
45. TV extraterrestrial
48. Clone of twenty across
50. Disney SF flick
51. Initials of filmdom's most famous horror actor
52. Fate of Karloff as promised by Lugosi in THE BLACK CAT

DOWN

1. He took some famous voyages
2. He taught one across
3. Mr. Baker of STAR WARS
4. They crawled from the cloud in Trollenberg
5. What KING KONG should never have been
6. Our sun
7. ____ Hama, star of KING KONG VS GODZILLA
8. Blaster belonging to one across
10. God of the underworld
12. Filmdom's most famous bride
14. Mr. Melchior
15. FIRST SPACESHIP ____ VENUS
17. Colin and Mr. Revill
18. Jaws
23. Where Mighty Joe was at the orphanage
25. The location of Price's haunted house
28. What Aura calls Klytus during her torture
32. One of Alex's cronies in A CLOCKWORK ORANGE
33. Mr. Disney
34. Dr. Frankenstein's associate
36. THE LAST DAYS OF ____ ON EARTH
37. Taylor's mate in PLANET OF THE APES
40. JOURNEY ____ THE SEVENTH PLANET
44. En-oh
46. PSYCHO author's initials
47. Monkey giant's initials
49. SON ____ FRANKENSTEIN

MONSTER FILE

We've got two Monster File returnees this issue, Bobby Dale and Larry Rodriguez. Larry has the second two entries, joining that elite club of artists who have had a total of three monsters published in our pages!

Carvoors are scale-covered creatures who live in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. When they are hungry, they kill the larger fish such as squids and sharks, but have been known to attack a whale. Carvoors travel in schools of fifteen males and four females. The females produce two pups during their lifetime, no more. Though Carvoors do not crave human flesh, they do not hesitate to eat swimmers or divers they may encounter on scientific expeditions far at sea.

Carvoors grow to twenty feet in length, their tails comprising half that length. The young Carvoors are born with webbing between their hands and feet, which disappears when their limbs become strong enough to propel the creatures swiftly through the water. Carvoor females gave rise to the legend of mermaids. Neither male nor female can ever be captured due to the tremendous speeds they're capable of reaching.

Mean, brutal, and a marauder of the universe, Carnivorn is over seventy feet tall, a mass of sinewy, bonecrunching power!

One of the Warwolves of the planet Carnivaro, he not only eats flesh but drinks only blood. This makes him twice as deadly, for while he is content to dine on a carcass from which he has frightened some other predator, the blood must be warm and fresh. Thus, the kill must be his own!

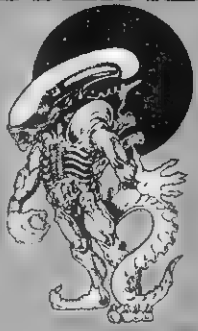
Carnivorn was the only Warwolf who did not hesitate to turn upon his own kind, which is why he was banished from his world by the disembodied Elders, the spirits of the civilized creatures whose decline after a nuclear war gave rise to the Warwolves. Warwolves were pets before the holocaust; thereafter, they mutated into the giant creatures they are today, turning on the few Elders who survived. Fortunately, the Elders were a race of mind over body which is how they were able to become immortal as "ghosts."

Carnivorn's fangs and claws are terrible, of course, but worst of all are the venom sacs on his black gums. One bite paralyzes an animal within thirty seconds, allowing Carnivorn to lap up the blood of the still-living creature.

Fifty million years ago, there lived prehistoric monsters called styracosaurs. They were passive but powerful herbivores who shared the earth with other dinosaurs. However, they were actually the product of a failure of evolution, like all dinosaurs! Dinosaurs had evolved into intelligent, very powerful bipeds, of which Styracon was one of the most powerful. There were others, like Tyranto, Brenton, and Stegoran, but all fell before the might of Styracon.

The fall of the two-legged dinosaurs occurred when more intelligent creatures began to appear. These furry things called "mammals" crept unseen into dinosaur settlements at night. They would eat their food and, naturally, the dinosaurs would blame it on one another since none of them ever saw the tiny night creatures! Eventually, these dinosaur wars destroyed their civilization and reduced the monsters to four-legged brutes. The mammals continued to gnaw away on the dinosaurs which survived, until there were no

THE PRINTED WEIRD

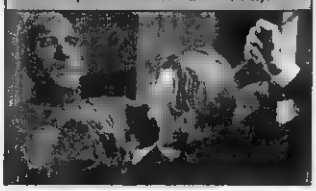


The book-of-the-month is actually a reissue, the return of E.R. Eddison's fantasy masterwork THE WORM OUROBOROS. Written in 1926, this meaty novel followed Lord Juss of Demonland in his quest for freedom against the overlordship of Withland and his search for Goldry Bluszco, his kidnapped brother. Finally, Juss must also visit the slopes of Koshtra Belorn, one of the most dangerous places in the world. The "Worm" is actually a serpent, the two being synonymous in English lore. This one is from Del Rey for $3.95

Less lofty but quite exciting are thirteen stories of witches by authors like Tanith Lee, Andre Norton, and C.J. Cherryh in Daw's superb collection HECATE'S CAULDRON. This book, edited by Susan Shwartz, is a bargain at $2.95. DAW also has another authoress on its list this month, Sharon Green, whose THE WARRIOR WITHIN ($2.50) is reminiscent of the popular Gor novels of John Norman. In this novel, an earth woman is given to the barbarian chief of a savage planet whose world is important to earth's expansion in outer space.

One book which won't be available for at least a year but will no doubt be *worth* the wait is the sequel to 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY. This novel is being written by Arthur C. Clarke, who wrote the original short story (THE SENTINEL) which inspired the film, and penned the popular novelization of the screenplay. Advance word is that the book will be entitled *2010*.

As for our "books-you'd-like-to-see" department, here is a summary of the titles our readers would like to see: THE FILMS OF PETER LORRE (from Charlie Berkowitz, Hartsdale, N.Y.), THE MAKING OF FORBIDDEN PLANET (Steve Lipman of Freemont, CA), MUMMY MOVIES (Josh Trupin, Norwalk, CT) and A COMPLETE GUIDE TO THE OUTER LIMITS (Dave Schow, Tucson, AZ).



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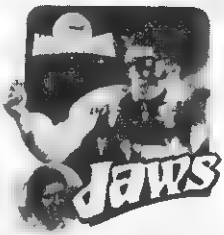

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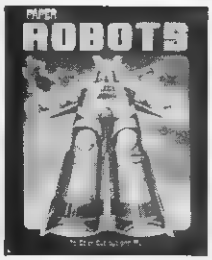

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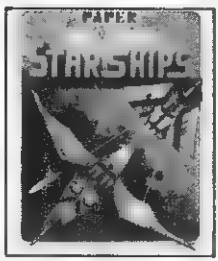

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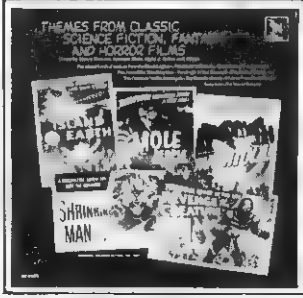

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FANG MAIL
(Continued from page 4)

WANTED! More Readers Like

BOBBIE BRESEE

BOBBIE IS HIS HOBBY

Where has Bobbie Bresee been all my life? (All 13 years.) I think I am in love with "an older woman." The pictures of her on the cover were sensational and inside she proves that she can be both BEAUTY and the BEAST. I don't think there've been too many women actresses playing real monsters, have there? Besides THE GORGON, I think there was a picture where a woman turned into a snake **(you're thinking of THE REPTILE)** but I don't know of any others. Anyway, I bet Ms. Bresee's makeup is the greatest of them all.

LARRY CAEDMON
Lawrence, MA

There was, of course, the immortal BRIDE OF FRANKENSTEIN a half a century ago—Elsa Lanchester—and there was Susan Cabot as THE WASP WOMAN and some ladies with acid-scarred faces in THE HYPNOTIC EYE & QUEEN OF OUTER SPACE. There was the hideous FRANKENSTEIN'S DAUGHTER (played by a MAN!). Of course there've been lotsa ladies growing frighteningly old before our eyes as in SHE, LOST HORIZON, COUNTESS DRACULA, THE LEECH WOMAN, etc., and Linda Blair in THE EXORCIST wasn't exactly the kind of kid you'd take home to introduce to the folks when she was in her fiendish mood. But you're right that Bobbie Bresee sets a female record that will be hard to surpass with her makeup (which took up to 6 hours to apply and 3 hours to remove!) in MAUSOLEUM. Bobbie's fans are invited to write to her c/o Masie Liam, 2495 Glendower Ave., Hollywood, CA 90027, and your letters will be forwarded.

SMALL TALK

FRED FOWLER, Pen Argyle, PA, wants to know: Are you going to tell us more about THE HORROR STAR? So far you've just whetted our appetite with pictures of Ferdy Mayne—a favorite of mine ever since THE FEARLESS VAMPIRE KILLERS. **MARSHA SAMSON, Youngstown, OH:** If Ann Darrow was the bravest girl Carl Denham ever knew **(referring to the heroine of KING KONG)**, Brian Forbes surely is the bravest man I ever heard of. After looking at the pictures, you couldn't have paid me the weight of a set of FAMOUS MONSTERS in gold to stay a night alone in the Horrorwood Wax Museum. Eek! **TONY RENO, Pt. Royal, VA:** Caroline Munro has got to be the Marilyn Monroe of Monster Movies. Tim Moriarty's interview with her was more than welcome. **FENWICKE BROWNE II, Silver Lake, IN:** How about Ray Harryhausen & Luigi Cozzi collaborating on a sequel to STARCRASH? Ray could do the animating of aliens and, well, Caroline Munro is animated enough just when she breathes! Thanx for the interview. **FREDERICK KUHL, Carrabelle, FL:** The mutant monstrosities in Randy Palmer's article (#182) were enough to give one "atomic ache." Write on, Randy! **RUSSELL SAMMS, Chisago City (yes, WE too thought it was a typographical error for CHICAGO at first), MN:** I'm looking forward to the second part of "Atomic Atrocities." Till Randy Palmer told me, I never realized the A-bombs spawned so many monster movies. **LOUIS HUMMELL, Fullerton, CA:** I wish you wouldn't run "gorror" articles like on MY BLOODY VALENTINE & HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ME. Neither were monsterrific nor famous. If you print any more of this kind of trite tripe you'll have to change your name to INFAMOUS HORRID GORIES.

CELLULOID DISASTER

I wish to direct a question (respectively) to Jeff de Feo & Brian Forbes (the authors of the HALLOWEEN II article in **FM** Jan. '82). "Did either of you even see HALLOWEEN II?" If you did, then you apparently missed HALLOWEEN I. I have HALLOWEEN I on video tape and I have viewed it 23 times (showing it to friends, etc.). I went to HALLOWEEN II with great expectations. All I can say is: HALLOWEEN II was a total letdown!!! The originality that was HALLOWEEN I was completely missing in H-II. John Carpenter lowered himself to "cheap" scares by using the gruesome techniques evidenced in most of the movies of '81. Apparently he forgot that it was his original that sprouted so many copies. HALLOWEEN I would show the "shape" a little at a time as he slowly stalked his prey. Sadly, the shape is all over the screen in H-II. He is reduced to nothing but a psychotic killer where in HALLOWEEN I he was the Boogey Man who could not be stopped. I could continue to tear this "celluloid disaster" apart but out of respect for Mr. Carpenter, I will stop. I believe that a magazine like yours has a responsibility to its readers, not just the film industry. I would think that you would advise your readers just what they are in for, i.e.—"If you expect to see HALLOWEEN all over again, forget it. But if you've liked all the 'copies,' then by all means go."

I would like to compliment you **FM** on your taste in AN AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN LONDON. Terror mixed with satirical comedy. Original!

MICHAEL MORTIMORE
Thermopolis, WY

A KILLER CONFESSES

Altho I am not fond of extremely violent motion pictures they do not offend me. I myself prefer the classics like Boris Karloff's FRANKENSTEIN or Bela Lugosi's DRACULA. Forry's interesting cameo in THE HOWLING. By the way, didn't our editor also have a small appearance in 1973's DRACULA VS. FRANKENSTEIN? Please answer this question. I've wondered about this for awhile. Altho the film itself was poor, it was nice to see the presence of Lon Chaney Jr. & J. Carrol Naish in their last roles. Recently I saw Chaney Sr.'s HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME on cable. The eerie silence let your imagination wander.

I enjoyed **FM** immensely. Especially the skillfully handled "A Decade of the Undead." The fotos were grat. Let's see the same thing done with Frankenstein. It's the best thing since "If I Were Wolf" way back in issue #—Wow! I forgot what issue number it was in.

MURDERMASTER
Boothwyn, PA

Yes, Forry played ill-fated Dr. Beaumont in D. vs. F.

VETERAN FAN

I've been an **FM** reader since 1961. It's the one small part of my childhood I still hang on to. A lot of changes have happened since then; for one, I'm now in my 30s and so is my entire generation. I lost track of **FM** for a shortime when the real "horrors" of our time caught up with me such as the presidential assassinations & Viet-Nam. But we survived & grew up, including "our" mag **FM**. My 2 daughters also read **FM** but not until I have read it first. I have yet to convert my wife. I never lose track of **FM** these days & it's still great to be the little boy everytime I sit down & read it.

PETER QUINT
N. San Juan, CA

I WANT TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL—YOURS!,(EDITOR)

One day my mother brought me home one of your magazines and after I read it I told her to always buy me the magazines that have monsters in them. In all of the magazines she's got me, none were so good as yours. After a lot of magazines I said, "Mother, I would like to subscribe." After that she filled out a check and sent it in. I have my own club dedicated to your magazine but only 2 boys are in it, their names are ROBERT SHRIVER (his father is the coach of the Easton Red Rovers) & JAMIE GENSITS. Everyone in school loves your magazine. I am a real monster freak. I must have seen over 51 monster movies. My father has seen the original FRANKENSTEIN, MUMMY, WOLF MAN & DRACULA and I can say I've seen them too. One day in school we saw THE MUMMY, DR. JECKYLL DRACULA, WOLF MAN and we could have seen FRANKENSTEIN but we ran out of time.

TROY (MONSTER) NESFEDER
(Address Missing)

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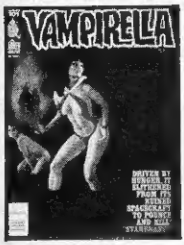

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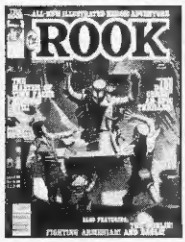

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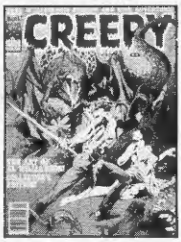

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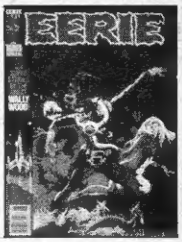

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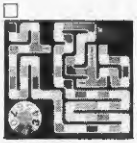
☐ 
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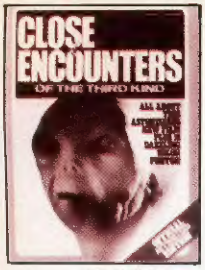

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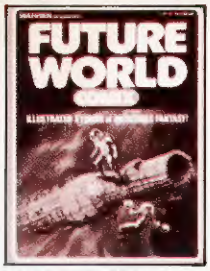

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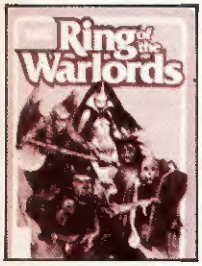

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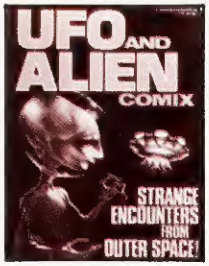

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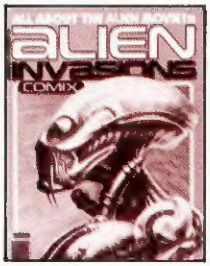

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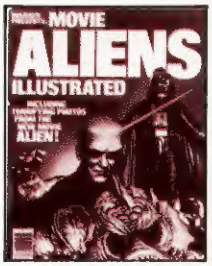

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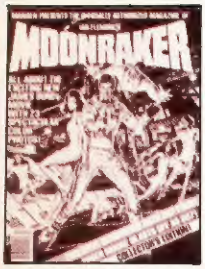

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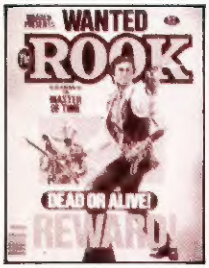

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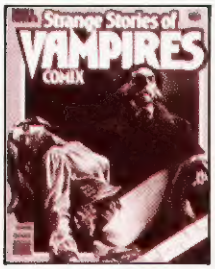

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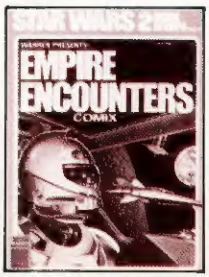

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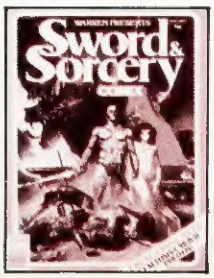

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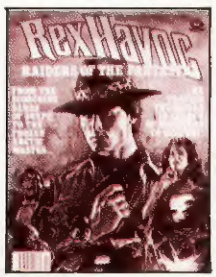

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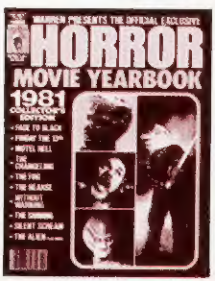

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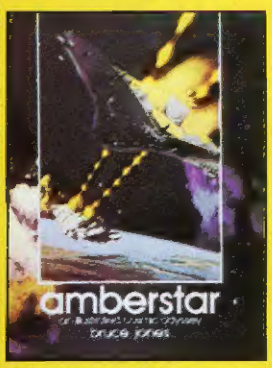

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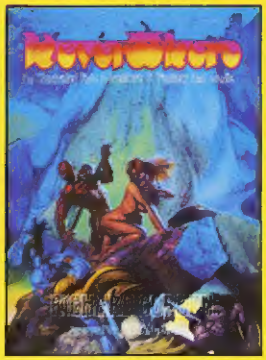

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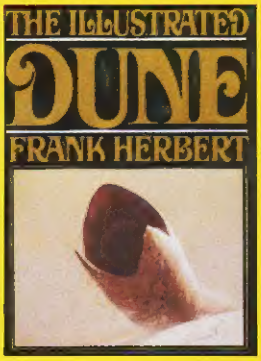

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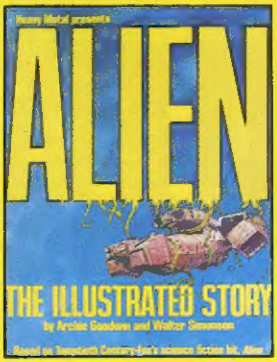

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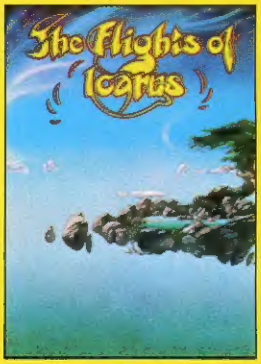

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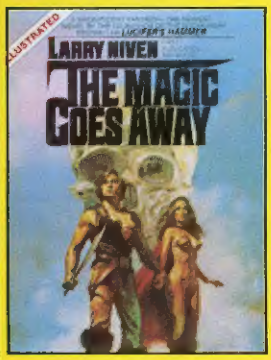

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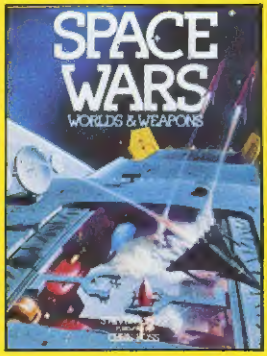

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